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OPINION METER

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INSIDE



Penultimate Flight

Space shuttle Endeavour takes flight for the next-to-last time.

NATION...Page 15



Young Readers

28 Saipan Southern High School students get their Motherhead/Fatherhead certificates.

CAMPUS LIFE...Page 18



Buddha's Birthday

Fiesta Resort & Spa plays host to the 2011 Buddha Birthday Festival.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

More gambling bills on the way »Other lawmakers warn of constitutional questions

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

More gambling and other revenue-generating measures will soon be introduced by members of the House leadership, but through local bills that do not need the approval of the Senate. **See MORE on Page 4**

Simulated terror attacks play out islandwide

**»8 'suspects' arrested,
509 'injured' in
4 terror-related
KONFITMA exercise**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A hijacked boat that caused chemical emissions at Charlie Dock; an explosion that triggered a fire and collapsed a structure in Kagman; a gas leak at a water reservoir on Navy Hill; and a hostage taking and food poisoning at Hopwood Junior High School.

These were the four terrorist-related scenarios that played out as the 36-hour full scale all-hazard exercise "KONFITMA" kicked off yesterday on Saipan.

Press secretary Angel Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* last night that no one was confirmed "dead," six were "arrested," and 509 were treated for "injuries," including two suspects. Demapan said the two "suspects" will be detained once medical treatment is completed.

As of press time, the Department of Public Safety's bomb squad had been activated and

See SIMULATED on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
A "victim," upper right, lies on the ground waiting to be rescued beside a chlorine cylinder after a "car bomb" accidentally "explodes" before reaching its target school in Kagman yesterday noon, as part of a 36-hour all-hazard Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Explosive situational training exercise. A fire truck arrived at the scene about an hour after the initial call for help. Inset shows an emergency responder trying to "decontaminate" both his colleagues and a "victim."

US congressional delegation on Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After the postponement of their visit in March in the wake of the Japan disasters, a U.S.

congressional staff delegation is on Saipan this week for a series of meetings on issues related to the federalization of CNMI immigration and related matters.

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan),

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) separately confirmed yesterday afternoon that they will have a meeting this morning with the visiting congressional delegation to discuss federalization matters.

See US on Page 4

Wilshire, service providers threaten to end contract with Fund. PAGE 3
MTEC chair laments dip in MYWAVE club membership. PAGE 6

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Local

Rota casino may reopen in June

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rota Treasure Island Casino Corp.'s "temporary" closure since March 25 was extended beyond 30 days but may reopen in June if and when it successfully gets clients from Japan, Guam

and Saipan, among other things.

Yoshiro Kishimoto, Rota Hotel manager, said yesterday they are hoping to reopen during the first week of June if their new marketing strategy succeeds.

"We wanted to reopen as soon as possible but we didn't have sure customers yet," he

told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He said Masahiro Watanabe, president of Rota Treasure Island Corp., remains the only investor for the casino.

Rota Treasure Island Casino, which is at the Rota Hotel, is the only holder of a license to operate a casino on Rota, albeit a

temporary one at this time.

Rota Treasure Island Casino had expected a surge of players scheduled in March and April but because of the March 11 Japan quake and tsunami, their expected casino players from Japan either postponed or cancelled their trip to Rota. A char-

ter flight from Japan to Rota was also cancelled after the Japan disasters.

Alfredo Antolin, executive director of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission, said the commission continues to monitor the gaming industry's situation on Rota.

He said after a recent meeting with Rota Treasure Island Casino, the commission was not given an exact date of their reopening.

Antolin said the commission and the casino operator are in constant communication.

A second group of investors—SNM Corp., which owns Rota Resort and Country Club—has also paid the \$150,000 investigation fee to the Rota Casino Gaming Commission as part of their application for a license to operate a casino.

Unlike Saipan voters, Rota and Tinian voters approved casino gambling on their islands.

Five schools join junior mock trial

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

About 40 students from five private and public schools on islands joined this year's junior high school mock trial at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe yesterday noon.

Organized by the NMI Council for the Humanities, the event drew parents and supporters of each team from Whispering Palms School, Hopwood Junior High School, Mount Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy on Rota, and Dr. Rita Inos Junior High School.

This year marked the program's seventh year; it remains non-competitive.

This year's resolve was a case about religious freedom and First Amendment where students played the role of attor-

neys and witnesses.

Attorney Joseph Camacho, who acted as presiding judge, said the program has grown and expanded throughout the years, citing the participation of schools from Rota—GCA and Dr. Rita Inos Junior High School.

"That's a big impact on the program because oftentimes they are left behind because of the distance. We're very happy to see them participating this year," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Camacho said he has seen great improvement in the students' performances. He noted the improved confidence demonstrated by participants as they presented their arguments.

Among the students who were recognized for their excellent performances was Mikhail Alcantara, a seventh grader from Hop-

wood who played as a witness.

A first-timer to the event, Alcantara said he prepared and practiced for five months, helping him gain confidence and develop his public speaking skills. Alcantara wants to become a doctor and a lawyer someday.

The following were the participating students:

■ Hopwood Junior High School: Alexandria Vergara; Aurora David; Marrielle Gariguez; Jeshel Ferrer; Jacklyn Garote; Keino Millare; Angela Aninon; Mikhail Alcantara; Russell Javan; Maria Theresa Dizon; Jewel Olivios; and Alex Bradley Menor.

■ Grace Christian Academy on Rota: Glengela Flor Guiang; Gabrielle Gascon; Eddie Boy Cestona; Angelly Guiang; Chrisha Llana; Amelia Quitugua; Venetia Atalig; Hannah



MONETH G. DEPOSA

The teams of Hopwood Junior High School and Grace Christian Academy on Rota pose with former representative Joseph Camacho after yesterday's non-competitive Junior High School Mock Trial at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe. About 40 students from five private and public schools graced this year's event, sponsored by the NMI Council for the Humanities.

Takeshi; and Dori Jean Santos.

■ Mount Carmel School: Lester Guevarra; Sung Hun Ryu; Zachary Taitano; Alyssa Benavente; Andrea Lazaro; and Luisa Camacho.

■ Whispering Palms: Victoria Chentsova; Minori Yoshida; Miguel Dandan; Nicole

Arenovski; Gabrielle Race; and Aaron Lee.

■ Dr. Rita Inos Middle School: Thomas Manglona; Beda Mundo; Jada Aldan; Shannon Barcinas; Shania Mesgnon; and Catherine Manglona.

The program was established to encourage students to

have early interest in law and learn the basic of courtroom procedures.

Merced Ada, the council's program officer, said the non-competitive program prepares students for competition in high school where winners go on to the national contest.



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Wilshire, service providers threaten to end contract with Fund

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The new investment consultant of the NMI Retirement Fund, Wilshire Associates, has warned the agency it may terminate its contract and end its relationship with the Fund if a proposed beneficiary derivative act measure is passed into law.

Fund in-house legal counsel Carolyn Kern disclosed this at the board of trustees' meeting yesterday, saying other service providers have also expressed similar concerns.

"Wilshire Associates, after reading the bill passed by the House [of Representatives], sent a letter of inquiry to us and a follow-up letter to the board

chairman, saying it will be necessary for them to revisit their agreement with the Fund if that bill is passed," she said.

"Although Wilshire didn't say definitively that it will no longer work for us, it however expressed the need to revisit our relationship, which is quite a bit an alarm. We also heard similar concerns from a couple of our service providers—either they will reconsider or some have expressed they feel they won't be able to continue services with us because of the additional legal exposure and possible expenses," said Kern.

This possible exodus of service providers, she said, this may result in the Fund entering into more expensive contracts

with other providers.

Wilshire was hired in October 2010 to replace Merrill Lynch as the Fund's investment consultant.

The House passed in April a bill that allows beneficiaries of trusts and retirement fund programs to sue on behalf of trusts or the Fund when the trustees who manage them refuse to bring do so. The measure includes a 20-year statute of limitations and applies retroactively, which means lawsuits that were dead years ago may be revived and will put former trustees at risk due to potential lawsuits. The measure is now with the Senate.

Kern said the Fund's attempt to provide Wilshire Associates some sort of "indemnification"

just so it could retain the consultant had seemed to fail.

"We explored with the investment consultant the possibility of providing indemnification to keep them onboard...but their concern was that we have a Legislature that is willing to change contract terms retroactively," the legal counsel said.

Besides the increased cost of doing business, Kern said the Fund is also concerned about the Fund being flooded with lawsuits.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez asked the board

yesterday to allow the Fund to hire more lawyers in the event the measure is enacted into law.

Kern and Villagomez also disclosed that the measure may affect the agency's ongoing efforts to hire new money managers for its investments.

They said the proposed measure is unconstitutional and would adversely affect—rather than help—retirees. They believe the measure is "extremely broad" and doesn't contain the protections found in the shareholders derivative act where it is patterned.

Board chair Sixto Igisomar created yesterday a task force headed by vice chair Jerry Crisostomo to communicate the Fund's views to the Legislature.

According to board legal counsel Viola Alepuyo, most members of the Legislature support the measure on the wrong assumption that the Fund board is not doing anything to protect retirees.

She said this is incorrect and that the ongoing fiduciary audit are among the steps the board has taken to fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities.

The board has been asked several times to join a retirees' lawsuit against Merrill Lynch but it has refused to do so, saying there's not enough proof that the firm had harmed the Fund.

Fund sues CUC to collect \$4.44M

■ **CUC allegedly failed to pay employer contributions**
■ **CUC must also pay penalty, damages**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund is suing the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in Superior Court for alleged failure to pay a total of \$4.4 million in employer contributions, penalties, and economic damages.

The Fund, through counsels Christopher M. Timmons and Carolyn M. Kern, asked the court to rule that CUC violated the law on employer contributions and owes the Fund \$4,443,433.

According to Timmons and Kern, CUC is delinquent in its employer contributions by \$3,175,255 as of April 29, 2011. They said the penalty for this de-

linquency amounts to \$740,462 through the end of fiscal year 2010. They claim that CUC is required to pay economic damages amounting to \$527,716.

The Fund also wants the court to declare that CUC's attempt to pass on its Fund obligations to the CNMI government is fraudulent on creditors and is void. It demands punitive damages.

Under the law, CUC is required to pay employer contributions to the Fund based on the gross salaries or wages of its employees and the Fund's actuarially determined contribution amount. These employer contributions must be remitted to the Fund within five working

days following the end of each payroll date.

"The failure to completely and fully remit employer and employee contributions to the Fund occurred through acts or omissions of [CUC], and therefore constituted a breach of the constitutional and statutory contracts among CUC, the Fund, and the CUC employees," the complaint states.

The complaint added that, on March 14, 2011, CUC attempted to assign its Fund obligations to the CNMI government in exchange for a release of certain obligations the government owed CUC.

"Neither CUC nor the CNMI government sought the Fund's consent, approval, participation, or input with respect to the attempted assignment," the complaint said.

No bail for alleged supplier of fake Viagra

The federal court has ordered the continued detention of Cai Xia Xu, a suspected big-time supplier of fake Viagra who was arrested last week.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Consuelo B. Marshall ruled Monday that the female Chinese national is a flight risk and remanded her to the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Xu appeared with court-appointed counsel Michael Dotts. She pleaded not guilty to charges of trafficking in counterfeit goods, introduction of misbranded drugs into interstate commerce, and receipt and delivery of misbranded drugs in interstate commerce.

Xu's jury trial will start on July 18, 2011; preliminary hearing is on May 23, 2011.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto represented the U.S. government at the hearing.

Garrett Chinn, special agent with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Office of Criminal Investigations, stated in an affidavit that a confidential source managed to buy a total of 50 bottles of Viagra from Xu on three separate occasions.

Chinn said that test results of the drug bought from Xu showed that the label and foil seal were not authentic, and the bottle had a wrong recycle code. An officer from Pfizer Global Security also

tested the tablets and determined that the tablets and labeling were both counterfeit, Chinn said.

Agents arrested Xu on May 6, 2011, in a sting operation on As

Perdido Road.

Erectile dysfunction drugs like Pfizer's Viagra require a doctor's prescription for purchase. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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Man allegedly impregnates 12-year-old girl; bail set at \$100K

The Superior Court has imposed a \$100,000 cash bail on a 32-year-old man who impregnated a then 12-year-old girl in 2009.

Peterkin Floresca Tababa was arrested Thursday and brought to court on Friday on charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree and sexual abuse of

a minor in the second degree.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo set the preliminary hearing for May 19, Thursday, 9am.

Detective Peter Camacho stated in his report that a police officer responded to a school in October 2009 after the vice

principal reported a sexual abuse case.

The girl told the officer that Tababa had sex with her starting when she was 10 years old and that she was too scared to tell anyone.

The following day, the victim told a Division of Youth Ser-

vices investigator that it was not Tababa who impregnated her. The person that the girl identified as the one who actually allegedly impregnated her, was interviewed at DPS on Dec. 1, 2009.

The person denied he had sex with the girl and consented to

give a sample of his saliva for DNA testing.

Last Tuesday, May 10, Camacho said that police received a report from the Affiliated Genetics Inc., indicating a 99.9999 percent accuracy that Tababa is the father of the victim's baby.

Detectives confirmed that

it was indeed Tababa who impregnated the girl.

Camacho said that, on Thursday, during an interview at the Department of Public Safety, Tababa admitted to having sexual intercourse with the victim back in 2009 when she was 12. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



UOG DISTINGUISHED ROTC GRADUATES

Cadet Capt. Josette Eclavea Cruz and Cadet Maj. Raena Purugganan Guerrero receive the University of Guam ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate certificate on April 29, 2011. The certificate is awarded to the cadets who place in the top 20 percent of the National Order of Merit List and have successfully completed the Summer of 2010 Leadership Development Assessment Course. Pictured from left are Cruz, UOG professor of Military Science Lt. Col. John Howerton, and Guerrero.

MORE

From Page 1

The Senate is opposed to House bills and House local bills legalizing casino gambling on Saipan, and would rather see Saipan voters decide the issue.

Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said it makes no sense to introduce bills that the Senate will surely kill—like what it did with his Saipan casino bill last year.

From now on, he said, the House majority will introduce most if not all revenue-generating bills through local legislation.

"If they don't want it, then we'll bypass them. They won't be receiving anything from us," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Tenorio said among the bills that the House leadership plans to introduce through local bills are Internet gambling, Texas Hold 'Em poker, and skeet shooting.

When asked separately, House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said it's not the House leadership's "policy" to introduce gambling and revenue-

generating bills only through local bills but members are free to decide which way to go.

"It's a choice, but it won't be a policy," he said.

Cabrera said the House leadership is committed to "reducing the austerity" that government employees are going through. These austerity measures include 16-hour work cuts per pay period and unpaid holidays. So-called non-critical government employees have also been receiving their paychecks late.

"I just hope we can all work together," he said.

House minority leader Digo Benavente (R-Saipan) said there's nothing wrong with introducing revenue-generating measures through local bills if they are meant for only one senatorial district, which has been practiced regularly, but he reminds his colleagues of constitutional restrictions.

"There are constitutional restrictions on the types of bills one can introduce locally. Legalizing casino gambling can only be made through initiative or

Commonwealth law according to the Constitution," he said.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), author of a controversial local bill legalizing casino gambling on Saipan, said his bill is constitutional.

Senate side

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), when asked for comment yesterday, said it is the House members' prerogative to introduce local bills.

"They have every right to do what they want to do," he said.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said it's time to work together to turn the economy around.

"I don't want to be derailed by Congressman Froilan Tenorio and a few others who have special interest agenda," he said.

Manglona earlier said the Senate will challenge the local Saipan casino bill in court if and when it passes the 21-member Saipan delegation.

The Fitial administration does not oppose the local legislation.

SIMULATED

From Page 1

was on its way to Hopwood Junior High School for the removal of an "improvised explosive device" discovered inside the campus.

According to the Public Information and Protocol Office, CNMI and federal emergency response agencies were activated at 10:30am in response to a string of what appeared to be "terrorist-related activities" throughout the island.

Following the emergency call, members of the CNMI Response Alert Coordinators proceeded to the Emergency Operations Center on Capital Hill to set up the state incident command center.

The Commonwealth Health Center immediately closed its perimeter fence and restricted entry only to hospital staff, patients and family members of patients. The Department of Public Health also established an Incident Command Center within their vicinity.

The first scenario involved an unknown boat at Charlie Dock or

at the Port of Saipan. Upon investigation, the authorities discovered "suspicious activity" and "emission" of a chemical odor from the vessel. Police officers boarded the vessel and apprehended a boat captain and four crew members who were caught in the process of "hijacking" the boat.

The five suspects, along with two other persons, were brought to CHC for "treatment" of what seemed to be a chemical-related illness.

The investigation revealed that the odor came from emissions of a chemical known as Radium 226.

After the Port of Saipan incident, authorities responded to an explosion behind the Kagman Fire Station. Authorities discovered a collapsed structure with some persons buried under the rubble. *Saipan Tribune* noted that a fire truck arrived at the scene almost an hour after the "fire" broke out.

After authorities managed to remove the debris, seven "victims" were transported to CHC for medical attention. This prompted CHC to call in 25 additional contamination personnel to assist.

In the third scenario, authorities responded to an emergency call at a Navy Hill water reservoir that was believed to have been "contaminated" with an active chlorine gas leak.

Investigators found the "leak" was intentional and classified the incident as an act of terror. The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s HAZMAT team arrived and secured the area at 1:45pm.

The fourth incident was when authorities responded to Hopwood Junior High School after receiving information about a male gunman on campus holding hostage the cafeteria staff. The gunman was arrested and detained at the Department of Corrections.

Local authorities and the Federal Bureau of Investigation agents were able to confirm a terrorist-related "food poisoning" that affected some 500 8th grade students at the school. All 500 students were immediately brought to CHC, where a field hospital was established outdoors. The students were treated and released at 3:45pm.

The remaining students not affected by food poisoning were brought to Koblerville Elemen-

Bruce and Brian Modeste.

The group was expected to arrive last night.

"I'm expecting that we will talk about Public Law 110-229, the CNMI Senate recommendation [on the status of long-term foreign



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The mangled "body" of a suspected "terrorist" lies on the ground after his "car bomb" accidentally "exploded" even before it reached its target—a Kagman school—as part of an emergency preparedness drill yesterday.

tary School for safety purposes.

According to press secretary Demapan, local and federal authorities are actively "monitoring" all the incidents that occurred yesterday.

"The administration is grateful for the efforts of emergency response authorities and their

vigilance to uphold the safety and welfare of the community. The emergency operations center will remain in full operation until all matters have been completely resolved," he said in a statement.

More simulated incidents are expected to continue today,

Wednesday. The U.S. Army Pacific, Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support System Enhanced Response Force Package Training and Readiness Division are conducting the exercise in partnership with the Office of the Governor and the CNMI response community.

US

From Page 1

Manglona and Cabrera said the visitors are from the U.S. House Subcommittee on Fisher-

ies, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs. This subcommittee has jurisdiction over the CNMI and other U.S. insular areas.

Manglona said he was informed of at least four visiting congressional staffers, including Bonnie

workers], Kilili's bill, the military buildup, [capital improvement projects], and other issues," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

PL 110-229 placed CNMI immigration under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009.

In March, state senators went to Washington, D.C. to present the CNMI Senate's recommendation to the U.S. Congress to grant foreign workers who have been in the CNMI for at least 10 years by May 2008 a status sim-

ilar to those granted to Freely Associated States citizens.

This is separate from a bill that Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan recently reintroduced to give a CNMI-only resident status for four groups of people in the CNMI.

PSS seeks lower rent after lease agreement expires

»Fund approves 2-month extension only

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund approved only a two-month extension in the Public School System's lease of the Retirement Building after the original deal expired on April 30.

The extension was granted as negotiations continue. PSS earlier asked the Fund to lower its lease of the second and third floors of the Capital Hill property.

Board chair Sixto Igisomar confirmed yesterday that Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan had appealed to the board to lower the lease payment due to the financial state of PSS. Sablan wants the rent lowered from about \$2 per square foot to about \$1 each.

The old contract required PSS to pay the Fund close to \$20,000 to lease the second and third floors of the Fund building.

The Fund earlier disclosed that PSS has accrued about \$280,000 in arrears, including utilities, since the start of the fiscal year. PSS paid the Fund \$50,000 last week as partial payment.

Igisomar said negotiation is ongoing and that the Fund expects a response from PSS after the Board of Education's meeting on Thursday on Tinian.

According to PSS finance director Richard Waldo, the Fund wants PSS to make an advance payment on a fourth of the yearly rental and full payment of all

past dues.

Waldo said that PSS might not be able to meet these conditions due to the current financial state of PSS, which only got \$28 million this fiscal year from the central government.

'Lawsuit vs. PSS in the offing'

Besides arrears in rental payments, Fund administrator Richard Villagomez also disclosed yesterday that PSS is behind in its employer contributions, totaling \$23 million to date.

He said PSS and Fund representatives met Friday last week to discuss the issue but no solution was reached. "They said they would come up with a proposal or payment plan and we're still waiting for that."

If negotiations fail, Villagomez said the Fund may have no other choice but to sue PSS for nonpayment of employer contributions. "If there is no acceptable payment plan, the obvious step is to go to court," Villagomez said.

The Fund is suing the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for the same reason.

Meantime, board legal counsel Viola Alepuyo reported that arrears of the Marianas Visitors Authority have been resolved after the central government absorbed the agency's unpaid obligation. Other independent agencies continue to make payments to the Fund.

Adams raises 'concerns' about NMC offer

»Board of Regents submits response; negotiations ongoing

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Dr. Christa Adams, who has been offered the post of Northern Marianas College president, has some concerns about the contract proffered by the Board of Regents.

Board chair Juan T. Lizama said yesterday that these concerns, which he described as preliminary, have nothing to do with the proposed \$80,000 salary but about certain provisions of the contract proposal.

Lizama earlier said that Adams' decision was expected yesterday.

"At this point in time, there's no rejection of the offer. We're still negotiating with Dr. Adams and we're moving very positively," said Lizama.

Saipan Tribune learned that Lizama communicated with Adams yesterday morning.

"We had an offer and she raised some concerns about the contract and she asked a response from the board. So we're sending her our answer tonight," said Lizama, adding that he is scheduled to call Adams today.

today.

He refused to elaborate when pressed for other details. He also declined to give a timeframe as to when Adams is expected to make a decision. He emphasized, though, that "time is of the essence" for NMC due to its pending accreditation status. NMC is currently on show-cause status.

The board is slated to continue its board meeting on Friday; the same agenda is on the table.

Dr. Adams was the board's original top pick but she withdrew her application even before a formal offer was made. The board turned to the next top two candidates—Drs. Sharon Hart and Jeff Armstrong—who later rejected the offers. Adams asked the board on May 9 to reconsider her application.

NMC has had no permanent president since January 2010 when Dr. Carmen Fernandez was suspended and later fired.

The institution has had seven presidents in 10 years. This has prompted concerns from the accreditation commission due to the college's "unstable leadership."

Japanese students to bring home fond memories of stay on Saipan

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four students from Hasaki School in Chiba, Japan who took part in the student exchange program between the Rotary Clubs of Saipan and Hasaki will be leaving the island today with fond memories of their five-day stay.

Yuki Oshima, Mika Sunouchi, Kie Inoue, and Umi Asazuma talked about their experiences through translator Hiroko Tajima of PDI during yesterday's meeting of the Saipan Rotary Club at the Hyatt Regency.

Pete and Lucy Norita-Shilling hosted Oshima and Sunouchi, while Marcia Ayuyu and her family hosted Inoue and Asazuma.

Oshima hopes to learn how to cook more Japanese food so she could cook for her host family next time.

Sunouchi, meanwhile, said she had fun and would like to visit the island again if given the chance.

Inoue said she was touched by the hospitality of the people on Saipan. She hopes to share her great experience with her family and friends back home.

Asazuma said she had so much fun with her host family that she doesn't want to go back to Japan just yet. She plans to visit again in the future.

The four students arrived on May 14 and were able to experience Taste of the Marianas that



Hasaki High School students Mika Sunouchi, Yuki Oshima, Kie Inoue, and Umi Asazuma pose with their host families as well as Hasaki and Saipan Rotarians yesterday at Hyatt Regency's Giovanni's restaurant.

night. The next day, they participated in the SOPHIA-Fiesta Walk/Run along with their host families in the morning and went to Pacific Islands Club to enjoy the waterpark.

They interacted with Kagman High School students on May 16 and paid a courtesy visit to the Rotary Club of Saipan on Tuesday.

The students, who traveled with Hasaki Rotarians, are scheduled to depart today.

Norita-Shilling, in an interview, spoke highly of Oshima and Sinouchi. "They are wonderful girls. Their parents reared them well," she said, adding that this was their first time to host students from an exchange program.

Ayuyu, who has hosted exchange students several times, said it was a good experience not only for Inoue and Asazuma but also for her four children who enjoyed spending time with them.

"When they have time to come back and visit again, they're very welcome in our house," she said.

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823 letters offer words of hope to Japan tsunami survivors



CLARISSA V. DAVID
Executive secretary Vinycia Seman of the Saipan Mayor's Office hands a bag containing 823 letters received under the "Kibo No Tegami - Letters of Hope" campaign to Hasaki Rotary Club president Izumi Junichiro, left, during the Saipan Rotary Club's meeting Tuesday at Hyatt Regency. At center is Saipan Rotary president Glen Perez.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office received a total of 823 letters from public elementary and high school students in the CNMI for its "Kibo No Tegami - Letters of Hope" campaign.

Vinycia Seman and Rina Monkeya-Teuira handed the letters to Izumi Junichiro, president of the Hasaki Rotary Club in Japan, during the Saipan Rotary Club's membership meeting Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Junichiro and other members of the Hasaki Rotary Club

are on island, along with four high school students who are part of the Rotary's student exchange program.

Launched in March, "Kibo No Tegami - Letters of Hope" encouraged public school students to write letters expressing support, encouragement, and hope to families in Japan affected by the March 11 tsunami and earthquake.

Seman recounted that they went to the Consular Office of Japan but was told they could not send the letters since they only accept monetary assistance for victims.

"Fortunately, with our guests today, sending these letters to the victims is now possible," she said.

Junichiro, for his part, said they are happy to accept the letters from the CNMI students. "We will distribute these to disaster victims and to schools in Japan," he said through interpreter Yoichi Matsumura of PDI.

Glen Perez, Saipan Rotary Club president, encouraged Hasaki students Mika Sunouchi, Yuki Oshima, Kie Inoue, and Umi Asazuma to help the Hasaki Rotarians distribute the letters to other victims.

MTEC chair laments dip in MYWAVE membership

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas Tourism Education Council chair Vicky Benavente said the number of student members of the MYWAVE Clubs has significantly gone down since they formed the organization.

"We started with 600 students but we only have less than 100 students at present," Benavente said during the general membership meeting of the Rotary Club Tuesday at the Giovanni's restaurant of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

MYWAVE Club—or Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically—is a tourism group formed within the Public School System that aims to give students hands-on involvement in the visitor industry.

According to Benavente, MTEC visited 10 public and private schools from January to April 2011 to meet with junior and high school students.

"We wanted to bring the tourism message to students and start at the age level when they are still listening," she explained.

Benavente said they teach students the importance of the tourism industry as a funding source for the government and employer of people.

"Kids, at this age level, really do understand the economics surrounding our islands' tourism industry," she added.

MTEC activities, Benavente said, include the MYWAVE

Tourism Summit, Hafa Adai Welcome for ship and airport arrivals, and student field trips to businesses within the tourism industry such as hotels and golf courses.

However, Benavente said that "priorities have changed" as there are fewer students, even community members, who are involved with the tourism initiative.

"In light of what's facing us economically, we can understand why this is happening," she said.

Still, Benavente emphasized that "tourism is everybody's business."

"Only through a coordinated effort among people who truly share a deep concern for the future of the industry could this industry continue to flourish."

Benavente encouraged the public to support marketing promotions for the CNMI, on and off-island events, advertising the islands through various social media, becoming MTEC sponsors, and taking an active role in council events and activities.

Formed in 2001, MTEC aims to heighten the community's awareness on the importance of tourism to the well-being of the people of the CNMI.

Other council members are Konrad Reyes of PSS, Martin Duenas of MVA, Yoichi Matsumura of PDI, and Catherine Perry of Integrity Communications.

Court identifies new deadlines for CUC to complete projects

The federal court has identified new deadlines for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to complete projects required by the stipulated orders relating to water metering and the CUC pipeline.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the CNMI government, and the U.S. Department of Justice representing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, agreed to document the court's deadlines with the signing of the Status Conference Stipulation One on Monday.

The parties filed the stipulation in the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday.

The original deadline to bill all Saipan drinking water customers based on consumption was Dec. 31, 2010. The new provision states that CUC shall complete by March 31, 2012 the installation of replacement meters at all locations with failed or non-functioning meters.

CUC shall complete by Aug. 30, 2012, the installation of meters at 600 locations, which include failed meters and un-metered/unregistered customers.

The original deadline for CUC to contract and design the CUC pipeline was Aug. 30, 2010. The new deadline is March 15, 2012. (Ferdie de la Torre)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, M.P. 96950
Tel. 664-2576 • Fax. 664-2570

Public Hearing for the Child Care and Development Fund State Plan

Every two years, the federal government requires states, territories, and tribes that receive funds through the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) to prepare and submit a plan detailing how these funds will be allocated and expended. The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs has been designated to be the lead agency that is responsible for administering the CCDF in the CNMI, and therefore, is required to submit the CCDF State Plan.

Copies of the draft state plan are available through the CNMI Governor's website at www.gov.mp, the DCCA Child Care Program Office, Building 1347 Ascension Ct., Capital Hill, Saipan and at the DCCA Offices in Tinian and Rota. The final plan must be submitted to the federal government on July 1, 2011.

Public Hearing Process

As part of the State Plan preparation process, federal law requires the lead agency to convene a public hearing to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the provision of child care services and quality improvement activities under the Plan before it is submitted to the federal government.

The Public Hearing for the CNMI Child Care and Development Fund State Plan October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2013 is scheduled for the following islands:

Saipan: Wednesday, June 1, 2011, 6:00p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Hall

Tinian: Thursday, June 2, 2011, 6:00pm venue: Tinian Mayor's Conference Rm.

Rota: Monday, June 6, 2011, 6:00p.m. at the Rota Round House.

The public hearing is an opportunity for the CNMI community to provide comments on specific items contained in the proposed plan. When making a comment please reference the section, number, heading, and page number. Comments that do not reference specific sections in the Plan may not be considered or reviewed. This hearing is also an opportunity for the general public to indicate support, opposition, suggested changes, additions, or deleting pertaining to specific items. The lead agency requests for the general public to offer constructive solutions in the statements.

How to submit written comments or testimony:

All written comments or testimonies will be accepted by mail, hand delivery, or email. The DCCA Child Care Program will accept written comments until Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 12:00p.m.

Via e-mail: mlof65@gmail.com, or msdlostte@gmail.com

Via mail: addressed to Melvin L.O. Faisao, DCCA Secretary, Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950

Hand Delivery: addressed to Melvin L.O. Faisao, DCCA Secretary, Bldg. No. 1347 Ascension Ct. Capital Hill, Saipan MP 96950

The purpose of the Federal Child Care and Development Fund is to increase the availability, affordability, and quality of early care and education services. Your comments and suggestions will help ensure that the CCDF State Plan being proposed will fulfill this purpose.

If you have any questions regarding the CCDF State Plan Public Hearings, please contact, Maribel Loste, CCDF Program Director, by Phone at 670-664-2575, or by e-mail at msdlostte@gmail.com

Approved for posting and distribution:

Melvin L.O. Faisao, DCCA Secretary

Date: May 09, 2011

Tinian Public Library ends National Library Week 2011

TINIAN—National Library Week 2011 turned into a month-long celebration and saw a spike in patron participation—a monthly average of a little less than 300 children at the Tinian Public Library.

The numbers show tremendous youth response and 135 adults who visited the library in a month, most of them availing of a variety of literacy and support services.

National Library Week 2011, which was celebrated on April 10–16, also saw 288 children and youth creating their stories and engaging in creative arts and crafts, including origami lessons, piñata, character cut-outs, how to make mwaar, and getting their daily dosage of Read-Aloud.

Library volunteers provided valuable supervision, served as aides to instructors, provided materials and supplies, and read to the children. These volunteers—Veronica Borja, Marqui-

na Hofschneider, Lucia Blanco-Maratita, Mitsue Evangelista, Kavika Knutson, and Samantha Wedding—also helped prepare materials and supplies for the children and youth.

The library was also used as a meeting and training venue for the weekly Chamorro Dictionary Revision Team, the Pacific Islands Bilingual/Bicultural Association 2011 30th International

Conference Committee, and the Tinian Core Group on CtoC 2010 CNMI CARES (Cultural Heritage Assessment) Planning grant project by the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. **(PR)**

One Economy, DOC to host 3 broadband townhall meetings »Community engagement will help map Internet access, usage and attitudes

One Economy, CNMI Department of Commerce, BroadMap LLC, and the New America Foundation will be conducting a townhall meeting to understand residents' attitudes toward broadband.

The program is part of an initiative of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to develop and maintain a com-

prehensive, interactive, and searchable nationwide map of existing broadband capability and availability throughout each state or territory.

In addition, One Economy aims to improve broadband adoption in CNMI by better understanding the barriers to adopting broadband that residents may face.

The following scheduled meetings will be held in May:

Thursday, May 19, 2011, 6pm at the GTC Elementary School cafeteria, San Roque;

Tuesday, May 24, 2011, 6:30pm at the Tinian Elementary School cafeteria, San Jose, Tinian

Thursday, May 26, 2011, 6:30pm at the Round House,

Songsong Village, Rota.

One Economy is a global nonprofit organization that uses innovative approaches to deliver the power of technology and information to low-income people. Currently, it operates on six continents and is planning additional expansion in sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, Asia, and Latin America. **(PR)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday to Arlene Valenciano! May you have many more birthdays to come and we wish you all the best. God bless. Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family!

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Appreciation dinner for elderly Palauans

The Palau Community Association Youth Club is sponsoring the PCA Senior Citizens Appreciation Dinner on Saturday May 21, from 5pm to midnight at the Garapan Central Park (Round House), Saipan. All Palauan senior citizens (55 years old and above) and their families in the CNMI are encouraged to attend the event. Come and celebrate with all PCA senior citizens with music, dance, and prizes. For more information, call any of the PCA officers: Rufino Aguon at 483-6232, Eileen (Motto) Kintol at 288-7538, Felisa Brel at 483-9053, or Bernice Ravell at 285-4845. **(PR)**

Public forum on Marpi power installation

The House Standing Committee on Natural Resources has scheduled a public forum today, May 18, on the installation of power poles in Marpi. The forum will be held at 6pm at the Pedro P.Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The committee is inviting persons who own property north of the Kan Pa-

cific swimming pool as well as those who have any other interests in the Marpi area to attend the forum. Written testimonies may also be submitted. To submit written testimonies, drop off or fax to the Office of Rep. Joseph M. Palacios (664-8831) or mail to P.O. Box 5000586 Saipan, MP 96950. Written testimonies can also be emailed to rep.palaciosj@cnnileg.gov.mp. **(PR)**

Navy training today at Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on May 18, from 8:30am to 4:30pm. The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and

Galvez Bank. **(USN)**

CUC now open on Saturdays

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s payment section on the first floor of the Joeten Dandan building will now be open on Saturdays, from 8am to 12pm.

According to CUC, the Saturday hours are only for payment processing. All other customer service-related matters and inquiries will be addressed during regular business days and hours. **(CUC)**

John Gonzales LIVE tonight

John Gonzales LIVE will have the topic "PSS Support Our Troops: Reserve Guards & JROTC" tonight, May 18, from 7pm to 8pm, on KSPN Channel 2. Guests will include Lt. Col. Robert Gay, Hopwood Jr. High principal Jonas Barcinas, PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh, and Troop-to-Teachers. The program will rebroadcast on Sunday and Monday, from 7pm to 8pm, also on KSPN Ch. 2

John Gonzales LIVE will

also be streamed worldwide on Betelnut Radio (www.betelnutradio.com) today, May 18, at 6pm Pacific Standard Time and 9pm Eastern Standard Time (Thursday, May 19 at 11am Chamorro Standard Time in the CNMI and Guam).

Viewers can participate by calling 287-4230, texting 285-META (6382), or emailing johngonzales@pticom.com. **(PR)**

Free business workshops

The CNMI Small Business Development Center, in partnership with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, will be hosting the following free workshop:

■ How to write a business plan: May 18, 2011, 9am to 11am

The workshop will be held at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office on the first floor of the Familia Building in Garapan. For more information contact Ralph Yumul at 664-3018. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities must be made 72 hours in advance.

The CNMI Small Business Development Center is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. **(SCC)**

Services to US armed forces

The American Red Cross—NMI Chapter is inviting all U.S. military service members—active, reserve, Guard, and veterans—to attend a "Health & Well Being Workshop" on Saturday, May 28, 2011, at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

The workshop, from 8:30am to 12pm, will feature:

■ Red Cross "Get to Know Us" briefing

■ Ruth Coleman of Veterans affairs

■ VA clinic Medical Associates of the Pacific, LLC.

■ VFW Post Commander

The workshop, breakfast, lunch, and park passes will be provided free of charge for all qualified military service members (DD-214). Military service members are allowed to bring two dependents.

Space is limited, so sign-up today. For more information or

to register call or email Le'ah A. Murphy, Red Cross SAF Coordinator, at 234-3459 or leah.murphy670@gmail.com. **(PR)**

SCC Corporate Challenge set

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual SCC Corporate Challenge Sunday, May 29, 2011, at the Minatchom Atdao in Susupe at 9:30am. Registration begins at 7:30am. To date, 10 teams have submitted applications. SCC traditionally accepts entries from SCC only, but this year has decided to open up registration to non-SCC member companies. SCC members can enter for \$300 and non-SCC member entry is \$400. The SCC Corporate Challenge is a fun event that can be used as a company outing or employee appreciation day. There are competitive races and games with prizes, and a judged tent competition. This year's theme is "Island Style Recycling" where recycled material will be used to decorate individual corporate entry tents. A panel of judges will decide the winners. **(SCC)**

SHIPPING SCHEDULE



Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SEMAKAU	016E	5/7 Sat	5/5 Thu	5/5 Thu	5/3 Tue	4/30 Sat	5/13 Fri	5/9 Mon	5/8 Sun	5/1 Sun	5/1 Sun	5/9 Mon	5/13 Fri	5/15 Sun	5/17 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	055E	5/14 Sat	5/12 Thu	5/12 Thu	5/10 Tue	5/7 Sat	5/20 Fri	5/16 Mon	5/15 Sun	5/8 Sun	5/8 Sun	5/16 Mon	5/20 Fri	5/22 Sun	5/24 Tue
MELL SARACA	046E	5/21 Sat	5/19 Thu	5/19 Thu	5/17 Tue	5/14 Sat	5/27 Fri	5/23 Mon	5/22 Sun	5/15 Sun	5/15 Sun	5/23 Mon	5/27 Fri	5/29 Sun	5/31 Tue
MELL SEMAKAU	017E	5/28 Sat	5/26 Thu	5/26 Thu	5/24 Tue	5/21 Sat	6/3 Fri	5/30 Mon	5/29 Sun	5/22 Sun	5/22 Sun	5/30 Mon	6/3 Fri	6/5 Sun	6/7 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	056E	6/4 Sat	6/2 Thu	6/2 Thu	5/31 Tue	5/28 Sat	6/10 Fri	6/6 Mon	6/5 Sun	5/29 Sun	5/29 Sun	6/6 Mon	6/10 Fri	6/12 Sun	6/14 Tue
MELL SARACA	047E	6/11 Sat	6/9 Thu	6/9 Thu	6/7 Tue	6/4 Sat	6/17 Fri	6/13 Mon	6/12 Sun	6/5 Sun	6/5 Sun	6/13 Mon	6/17 Fri	6/19 Sun	6/21 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SEMAKAU	016E	5/21 Sat	5/22 Sun	5/22 Sun	SKIP	5/25 Wed	5/27 Fri	5/29 Sun	SKIP	6/3 Fri	6/4 Sat	6/9 Thu	6/28 Tue	6/12 Sun
MELL SENTOSA	055E	5/28 Sat	5/29 Sun	5/29 Sun	6/1 Wed	6/2 Thu	6/3 Fri	6/5 Sun	SKIP	6/10 Fri	6/11 Sat	6/16 Thu	7/5 Tue	6/19 Sun
MELL SARACA	046E	6/4 Sat	6/5 Sun	6/5 Sun	SKIP	6/8 Wed	6/10 Fri	6/12 Sun	SKIP	6/17 Fri	6/18 Sat	6/23 Thu	7/12 Tue	6/26 Sun
MELL SEMAKAU	017E	6/11 Sat	6/12 Sun	6/12 Sun	6/14 Tue	6/15 Wed	6/17 Fri	6/19 Sun	SKIP	6/24 Fri	6/25 Sat	6/30 Thu	7/19 Tue	7/3 Sun
MELL SENTOSA	056E	6/18 Sat	6/19 Sun	6/19 Sun	SKIP	6/22 Wed	6/24 Fri	6/26 Sun	SKIP	7/1 Fri	7/2 Sat	7/7 Thu	7/26 Tue	7/10 Sun
MELL SARACA	047E	6/25 Sat	6/26 Sun	6/26 Sun	6/27 Mon	6/29 Wed	7/1 Fri	7/3 Sun	SKIP	7/8 Fri	7/9 Sat	7/14 Thu	8/2 Tue	7/17 Sun

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program has extended the deadline for submission of applications for Tinian Vendors to May 20, 2011. Applications may be picked up at the CNMI WIC Administrative Building located in Navy Hill, Saipan, Building No. N-25 or may be downloaded online by visiting our website at www.cnmiwic.org. The Vendor Selection Criteria is attached to the application and may also be viewed on the website.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program office no later than 4:00 p.m.,

May 20, 2011. Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications and requirements are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4067, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

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Secretary of the DPH

Carmen C. Cabrera
WIC Program Administrator

DPW's Salas pleads guilty to extortion

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, said yesterday that Thomas S. Salas has pleaded guilty to extortion under color of official right.

The charge related to Salas' conduct while employed by the CNMI Department of Public Works.

As admitted by the defendant, Salas used his position to demand payments of several hundred dollars from a local business owner in exchange for performing or withholding certain government functions.

Salas is scheduled to be sentenced on Aug. 18, 2011. The maximum penalty for the charge is imprisonment for 20 years and a \$250,000 fine.

"Corruption at any level undermines the public's confidence in our system of government, and the Department of Justice is committed to prosecuting those who abuse their official positions in this way," Limtiaco said.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case, and assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley prosecuted it. (*U.S. Attorney's Office*)

Free 'Cash for College' workshop on Tinian

The Northern Marianas College and the College Access Challenge Project will host a free "Cash for College" workshop to help students and their parents maximize scholarship opportunities for college.

The free workshop is on Tuesday, May 31, 2011, at the Tinian Instructional Site in Room D. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am and 12pm.

Participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Tinian Municipal Scholarship, and the CNMI Scholarship.

Those who attend the workshop will qualify to have their NMC admission application fee and their placement test fees waived for the fall 2011 semester. This represents a saving of about \$75 for a semester.

Participants should bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid U.S. passport, copy of valid application for a U.S. passport, birth certificate, or green card), an official transcript from high school (at least three official copies), tax forms, and proof of CNMI residency for 2009 and 2010, including proof of continuing residency. Applicants for Tinian Municipal Scholarship must bring a U.S. passport, a voter registration card, and proof of vote cast.

For more information, call NMC at 433-0657/0649 or email mariaa@nmcnet.edu. (*NMC*)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 18, 1999

Funding for kindergarten still in limbo

Hopes by education officials to ensure continuous funding for the cash-strapped kindergarten program may have to wait a little longer. A legislative proposal to amend the Education Act to include five-year old children in the mandatory free schooling will not likely be considered by the current Legislature for voting because of the financial crisis besetting the government. While she has agreed to initiate the move, Rep. Malua T. Peter said the proposed amendment to existing laws on public schools will still depend on when the government will be able to infuse enough funds to support the early childhood program.

SGMA: No to wage hike

Garment manufacturers are opposed to any raise in the minimum wage in the Northern Marianas, warning against impact on the industry that continues to face stiff competition from countries offering cheaper labor cost. Any wage hike will only increase production costs that constitute about a quarter of the final selling price of any apparel sewn on the island, according to Richard A. Pierce, executive director of the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association. He said the prolonged financial turmoil in Asia that has pulled down labor cost in the region and the recent \$1 billion lawsuit filed against Saipan factories have made it more difficult for local garment firms to stay competitive.

May 18, 2000

Bill seeks compensation for toxic waste exposure

A bill under review in the House of Representatives will allow island residents who have been exposed to toxic substances beyond the permissible federal level to seek compensation from manufacturers and handlers responsible for bringing the poisonous chemicals here. Offered by Rep. Dino M. Jones, chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, HB 12-177 comes in the wake of the planned class action suit against federal agencies and the manufacturers of the polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) which has contaminated the village of Tanapag on Saipan. "There is no CNMI law in the book right now that addresses the need to seek compensation for damages resulting from toxic chemicals' exposure," he said.

Lump sum budget eyed for NMC

Rep. Dino Jones is proposing that the Northern Marianas College be accorded the same lump sum budgeting scheme currently being considered for the Public School System and the Department of Public Health in the next fiscal year. During a meeting with education leaders this week, Mr. Jones said that in order for CNMI's lone college to improve its vocational programs, NMC would need to have control over all of its funding resources. "I think lump sum budget just comes in the right time so that we can produce more skilled members of the labor force," said Jones. He told education leaders that he will be lobbying for this initiative in the House, similar to efforts he has put in for PSS in improving the level of education in the CNMI.

May 18, 2001

MVA to get 100% of aviation fuel tax

With visitor arrivals to the Commonwealth slumping to a fiscal year low last month, the Marianas Visitors Authority is finally getting much needed help. This, after the Legislature passed House Bill 12-359, appropriating 100 percent of tax collected from aviation fuel to the tourism authority's marketing and promotional activities to Taiwan and other emerging markets. HB 12-359 was introduced by House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial and was aimed at amending 4CMC Section 1803 by adding a new subsection hoped to revitalize the declining tourism sector.

Fitial vows to solicit federal funds for local infra projects

House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial yesterday promised to help the Commonwealth Ports Authority solicit additional funds from the federal government for major improvements at the CNMI's air and sea transport facilities. Mr. Fitial said moves are now underway to secure financial assistance from the Department of Transportation to speed up rehabilitation and improvement projects of airports and harbors in the Northern Marianas. Mr. Fitial said the CNMI Legislature's lower house will work with US Representative John T. Doolittle and other members of the US Congress and the Bush Administration to facilitate the release of federal funds for the islands' transport facilities.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-010

Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from utility billing software development firms, for the Purchase of Utility Billing Software and preventative maintenance tracking software for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The work includes a needs assessment; training; project management; data conversion; and application. Deliverables may include a quotation for equipment to support the project and a performance report.

The bid package & specification will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested offeror, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 03, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **June 16, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 06, 2011 to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

ANNUNCIO – ARONGORONG ANNOUNCEMENT

**YOUR COMMENTS ARE
MOST WELCOME:**

VR FY - 2012 State Plan Goals

Goal 1. Deliver quality and timely services to applicants and consumers.

Goal 2. Serve as an advocate for individuals with disabilities.

Goal 3. Continue to work closely with the Workforce Investment Board to maintain and improve the best features of our workforce development system and to initiate efforts to integrate services for consumers.

Goal 4. Facilitate and ensure the seamless transition of students with disabilities to employment or continued education.

Goal 5. Maintain a comprehensive system of personnel development to ensure adequate qualified rehabilitation personnel.

Goal 6. Update of Policies and Procedures.

Margarita R. Olopai-Taitano
OVR Director

Jesus Elameto
SRC Chairperson



The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) in partnership with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC), will be



conducting statewide public forums on **FY 2012 State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services**. YOU are ALL invited and encouraged to please participate in the scheduled public forums. The forums will provide opportunities for public comments on how well services are met and what need to be strengthened in our State Plans. Let us know how best the **Office of Vocational Rehabilitation** shall and should serve people with disabilities residing in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. What barriers exist that currently prevent our people with disabilities from getting or keeping a job? More importantly, recommend solutions to those barriers. **Overall, how can OVR and our local communities work together to prepare, secure, and maintain employment and promote independence for and among eligible people with disabilities?**

Community Forum on VR State Plan FY 2012

ROTA

May 23, 2011

As Paris
Songsong Village

**Time: 11:00 am to
2:00 pm**

SAIPAN

May 24, 2011

Saipan Chamber of
Commerce Conf.
Room, Family Bldg.,
Garapan
(NORTH OF BANK OF
SAIPAN, GARAPAN
BRANCH)

**Time: 5:30 pm to
7:30 pm**

TINIAN

May 25, 2011

Tinian Dynasty
Hotel & Casino,
San Jose Village

**Time: 11:00 am to
2:00 pm**

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: If you require reasonable accommodation (e.g., large print, sign language interpreter) to participate in the public forums, please contact the OVR Council Liaison Elvira Seman at least 2 days before the scheduled forums. Copies of the plans can be accessed at the OVR website or obtain copies at the OVR Main Office at Navy Hill Bldg. N-2.

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
TEL: 322-6537/8 TTY: 322-6449 FAX: 322-6536
PO Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950
Email: nmidir@ovrgov.net
Website: www.ovrgov.net

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Office of the Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS).

Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 116

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The dogs of war

The Navy SEALs who raided Osama bin Laden's compound aren't the only members of the mission to be cloaked in mystery. The military dog the commandos took along is too. The government won't even release his—or her—breed, although most military dogs are German shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Labradors or Lab mixes. We do know the canine was included in the very private meeting President Obama held on May 6 at Fort Campbell, Ky., with the assault team.

Dogs have been rescuing us from calamities for centuries. Search-and-rescue dogs find survivors buried in rubble; in Italy, Labs and Newfoundlands have been trained to jump into the surf to help swimmers in trouble.

But war is a particularly grim and intense assignment. And dogs have been aiding troops for as long as the U.S. has been going to war. There are 600 dogs serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, treading treacherous roads on patrol and parachuting out of helicopters (yes). They can detect improvised explosive devices better than any machinery. They protect, track and save the lives of military personnel, and sometimes lose their own: Several dozen, at least, have died in action in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Even as our technological ability to fight terrorism becomes more sophisticated, even as airport scanners electronically undress travelers and unmanned drones hover above war zones, we continue to rely on dogs to lend us their extraordinary senses of hearing and smell. As if that weren't enough, their innate tenacity and loyalty make them companions as well as comrades, serving as honorably as the men and women they assist.

© 2011, Los Angeles Times

The Plame game

So it has come to this. Pakistani authorities miffed about the U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden leak the name of the CIA station chief to the Islamabad press corps.

Pakistan is all for the red, white and blue until the check comes through. If there were ever a signal about the time to part ways, this is it.

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza "Tumbleweed" Gilani was upset anyone would imply his country's intelligence services or army were "in cahoots" with bin Laden. Fuzzy, Jingles, Hopalong and the rest of his sidekicks in the Pakistani Cabinet apparently agree.

The United States knew exactly what it was up against when it risked the lives of Navy SEALs to find bin Laden, who had been living comfortably in Abbottabad for five years.

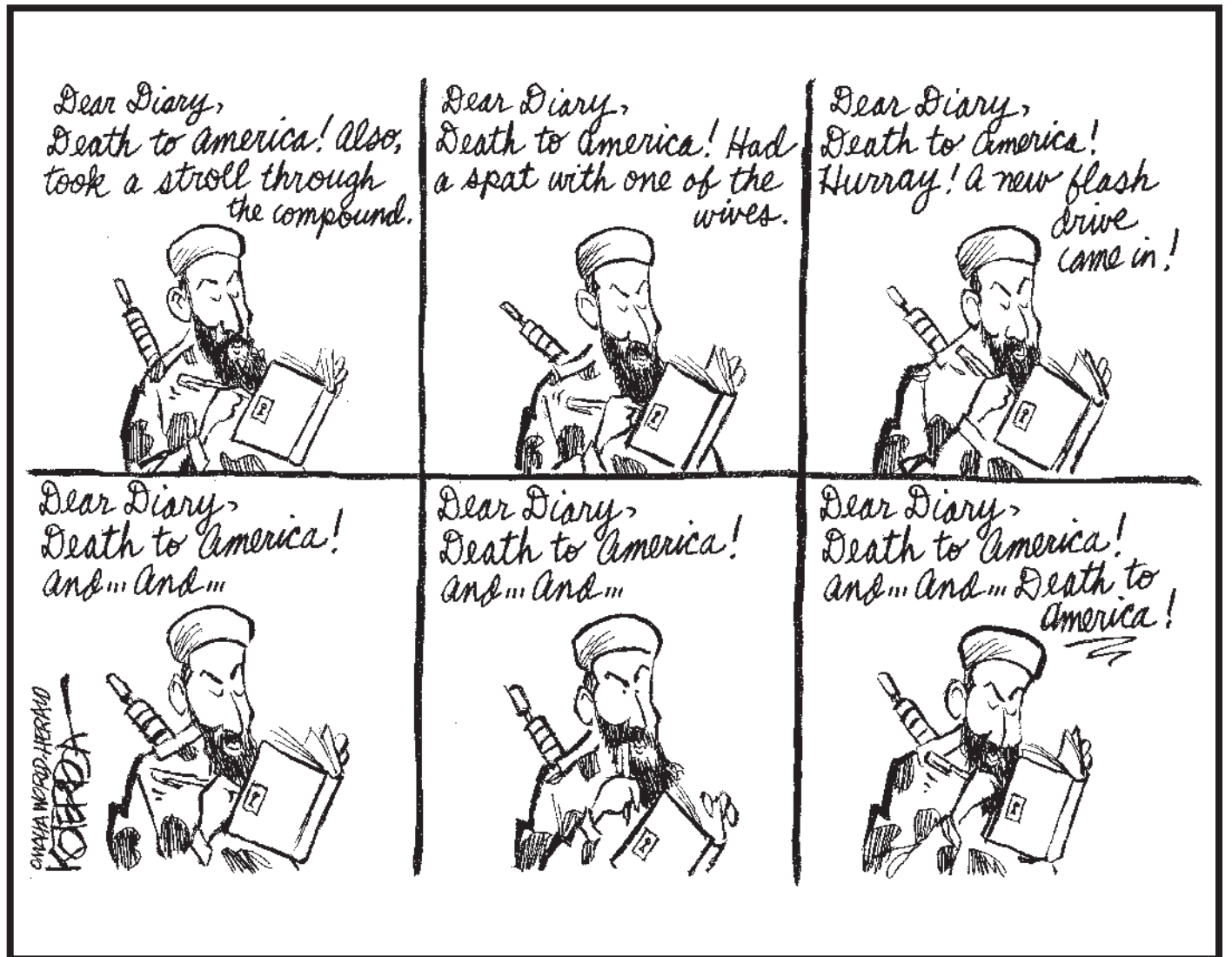
U.S. planners did not share their intentions because they had zero confidence in their ostensible ally. That pretty well defines the relationship going forward.

Failure of the Pakistanis and the U.S. to work together twins well with the inability to define a continuing mission in Afghanistan. Time to go, again.

The U.S. gave up on Afghanistan in the middle of the past decade, when it turned its attention to Iraq. Efforts to rekindle a reason to be there have not produced any results.

Now the Pakistanis betray a U.S. intelligence agent for plain old retribution and hometown politics. The Americans moseyed into a box canyon with an ornery varmint that has nuclear weapons.

© 2011, Seattle Times



West Africa: Digging a hole is only a start

By JESSIE SEILER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Before I joined the Peace Corps, I had heard all the stereotypes. Volunteers were a bunch of privileged white kids, I was told. Guitar-strumming, wide-eyed do-gooders who didn't understand cultural differences and spent their time building latrines they could never persuade anyone to use.

The image of an unprepared, inexperienced volunteer armed with nothing but good intentions is no longer accurate, if it ever was—at least not here in Senegal, West Africa, where I am serving in the Peace Corps as a preventative health educator. Still, I was nervous when, seven months into my service, the leaders of my community approached me to ask if we could start a latrine project. Wasn't this exactly what I had been teased about? More important, was I ready for such an ambitious project?

But the arguments for the project were convincing. Of the 26 family compounds in my village, each of which can house up to 20 or 30 people, only 11 had latrines. The unlucky families without them went into the bush when nature called. In a country like Senegal, where water-borne illnesses are a major threat and children can die of simple dehydration, defecating outdoors contributes to an erosion in the quality of life and can even lead to painful, preventable deaths. Here was my community coming to me and asking for a way to change that. Even with my dread of failure, my lingering fear that I would be implementing a program no one would make use of after I had left the village, how could I say no?

During the hottest part of the day, when by all rights we should have been napping under the sparse shade trees, the village gathered. I had invited the patriarchs of every compound, the village health workers and the most important women in the community. My host-sister, Fama, who at the time was 3, came too—though when she wanted to sit in her customary spot on my lap and listen to the talk, she was shooed away by her elders.

Nervously, with help from the village health workers, I explained my proposition: The people of Ndiago would bring latrines to themselves. Two men from the village would be in charge of hiring masons and bringing the cement and other materials to the village. Two women would be selected to educate everyone on how to use and maintain their latrines and on the importance of washing their hands with soap and water. I would be involved, but only to deal with the grant money and keep track of the receipts.

The proposal was immediately accepted, and the villagers selected the two men and women who were to hold positions of responsi-

bility. From there, the project went so smoothly that even to this day, a year later, I have trouble believing it.

All 15 compounds without latrines were able to finish the work before the rainy season. That's lucky for us, because everyone is busy in the fields during the rains, and anyway, it's when diseases like giardiasis, amoebiasis, dysentery and sometimes even cholera become major threats. The women who were elected to serve as health educators turned out to be helpful in teaching about oral rehydration therapy as well. The project saved lives, and the people of Ndiago did it for themselves and by themselves.

I was proud of how things had gone. Then I started thinking about it more. If there were ever an outbreak of amoebiasis in my hometown of Los Angeles, outraged parents would write letters to members of Congress, even as their children made quick recoveries. But in this century when cutting-edge medical technology is being used to develop remedies for hair loss, my community here in Senegal—people I think of as family—ask for nothing more than simple latrines for themselves and their children. Not a source of safe, clean drinking water. Not a real waste management system. Not more consistent access to oral rehydration therapy and the cheap medications that treat diarrheal diseases. Just holes in the ground.

My host-sister Fama is 4 now, almost 5. She never walks anywhere—she skips and hops and leaps and runs and dances wherever she wants to go. She's talkative and friendly and happy. I love her, yet there is nothing I can do to ensure that she will receive good-quality health care and a good education. I can't prevent her from being forced into an early marriage. She will probably have her first child at the age of 17 or 18. She will probably lose some of her children to preventable, treatable diseases.

Maybe this latrine project in my village will prove to have been a small step in the right direction. And maybe I should be happy with that. But I want the people of this village to want more. If in 10 or 20 years the people of Ndiago and Senegal and the rest of the developing world are still asking for latrines instead of demanding access to health and sanitation facilities, to better schooling for their children and more accountability from their leaders, then my project and thousands of others all across the world were failures. Fama is not one special, entitled child in a million, she's one of millions. Each one of them is worth more than what a latrine project can give them. So what do we do now?

Jessie Seiler, a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, blogs at jseiler.blogspot.com. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Realigning NMI-US relations

Perhaps we are a serious people. There's a proposed legislation to revisit the Covenant agreement supported by proponents armed with disoriented arsenal. It boggles the mind though, what would be the basis to place legitimacy behind the call inherent in the measure. Is it the costly dysfunctional relationship between the NMI and Washington? How and why did we allow this relationship to crumble to pieces?

The Covenant agreement is over three decades old, though still relevant for all intent and purposes. Most of those who championed it (as it sailed through the U.S. Congress in 1975) are no longer around. Some have gone to their final resting place while the rest are super seniors.

Promoting its essence—through our lenses—is one horrendous task and a bit more difficult when most members of Congress (many of whom are new) have no clue of the agreement or our existence. These and other more pressing national issues leave us out in the cold, groping for answers. This should be understood to avoid any further misgivings on the magnitude of dealing with the federal government. But this isn't the end of our journey.

We can begin anew with a retreat to seriously ponder how do we realign and re-establish a functional relationship with Uncle Sam.

Let's begin by approaching the two national parties who hold conventions every two years. It is through this venue that we must work tirelessly to establish a networking system with states' representatives and senators. It sounds cumbersome, but it's a venue where we can begin speaking the same language so they know our own aspirations as fellow Americans situated outside mainstream US of A.

This task requires dispatching NMI representatives with real peoples' skills who can articulate our views and concerns with national political party leaders and members of Congress. It makes the work of our Washington delegate a lot easier provided that we are on the same page.

But fostering real networking with key players at the national level can no longer wait. Networking, if we work it successfully, can gain the CNMI surprising mileage with Washington. Taking this approach saves us the embarrassment and turns the proposed legislation into an oxymoron.

■ ■ ■

A run-for-your-life drill

By CHERYL HOLT
LOS ANGELES TIMES

I lived on the Oregon coast for 10 years, in a small tourist town of 5,000 people. It was built at sea level, on a narrow spit of land a mile and a half wide. Running along the east edge of town was a ridge that represented "higher ground," which we heard a lot about, as in "run to higher ground immediately!"

It was a wild geophysical area. From certain vantage points you could see Mount St. Helens 60 miles to the north, with its top blown off. Tectonic plates met a few dozen miles offshore. On any given day, one of those plates could be pushed over or under the other, generating a huge quake and sending a massive wall of water to deluge the coastal communities. A tsunami could arrive in 10 to 15 minutes.

During my first few years of residence, there were frequent earthquakes. I knew I was supposed to "do" something, but I was never sure what. Neither were my neighbors, who'd lived there all their lives. After the Indonesian tsunami, Oregon authorities began intense community

It should be understood that Washington uses the newspapers and its own field staff here to secure information on any and all issues.

What the newspapers carry in straight news articles, editorials, commentaries, and letters to the editor come under full view in Washington's radar.

There's hardly any room to spin off irresponsible statements just for personal satisfaction that compromises efforts to work with Washington. It's equally their game and better suited at it given that they almost always have the upper hand.

It doesn't mean we can't express honest differences of opinion. This exercise is part and whole of our rights as U.S. citizens to freedom of expression and the press. We may be rougher on the edges in our expressions, but the issues remain our individual rights.

■ ■ ■

The NMI can no longer sit idly by in self-alienation. It must proactively work up the resolve to grab the bull by the horn in the strengthening of self-government. It warrants our demonstrating that in fact we're sufficiently mature to handle matters of state.

The introduction of a proposal to give lawmakers another \$2,000 in stipend money on top of their salaries is definitely far from the fiduciary duty of doing what's right. Firstly, this government is bankrupt. Secondly, what about the people you represent out in the villages. Don't you think they too (more so than their illustrious legislators) deserve \$63,500 per year? Why don't you even out the playing field so everybody benefits? With daily apocalyptic pain, we also know exactly what to do with gratis like your \$2,000 stipend.

This type of measure reminds me of a budget hearing I attended in the late '80s in Washington when a certain delegation took its seat. The chair of the appropriations committee gave the governor and his entourage superb felicitation. He noted that the delegation is seeking for an additional \$36 million more for a certain infrastructure. Then he added, "Thank you governor for bringing the entire population of...to this hearing." Yes, Washington also watches your demeanor with real keen eyes. You're asking for more money while bringing an entourage to fill the committee room? It doesn't go together, does it?

I'm not sure that a request from the NMI for grant funds would sail

training, which was frightening and important but also seemed futile. The more you know, the more you know there is no way to protect yourself fully from the forces that nature can unleash.

A neighbor who served on the city council visited every house on our street. He showed us the maps. In case of a major tsunami, my family's house, and the whole town, would quickly be under 45 feet of water, moving at high velocity. You couldn't stay in your house during a tsunami. Even if it could withstand the force of the wave, the second floor or the attic or the roof wouldn't be safe. You had to flee.

Our instructions were, if we felt an earthquake, to drop everything and immediately run—not drive and not walk—to the foothills on the east edge of town. Can you imagine the terror of this happening in the middle of the night, when your young kids were sound asleep? Can you imagine being elderly or disabled and unable to move quickly?

We began to have community-wide tsunami drills. I participated in four of them. The civil defense siren sounded and the entire town headed for the foothills. My kids were in school, and the school was built on the hillside, so I didn't have to worry about them. It was just me, trying to flee to safety. I had 10 minutes to get to higher ground, and I timed myself, trying to make it, always hoping I would.

multiple solutions for your considerations in an effort to not only address your concerns, but to move the program forward. I continue to be open to discussion whenever you are willing to do more than just find a "quick fix." Returning to "the good old days" is simply going in the wrong direction.

Finally, I am perplexed as to why Senator Reyes and a few other lawmakers continue to insist that Public Law 15-25 and the tuition that I must charge has created a community of non-licensed drivers in the CNMI. If that were the case, then adopting legislation that attempts to appease these individuals is counter-productive.

the CNMI) = even more stupid. You and your buddies on the Hill are responsible for the screwed up economy. Find a way to fix it or get out! Or, let someone else get in there who actually cares for the CNMI and has the mental tools to fix it. You guys are collecting paychecks for doing nothing. More casinos will not magically solve the economic problems that you and your Capital Hill buddies created. Folks aren't really visiting the casinos we have in big enough numbers anyway. Saipan has too many empty hotel rooms now—fill those rooms first, before you even think of building another casino.

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



smoothly. Not after we told Washington in 1993 that we no longer need grant funds for government operations. It was the time when the apparel industry was raking in \$1.2 billion annually. But the industry has deployed elsewhere. Now, we're tiptoeing through Interior's garden whispering with stiff faces if we could use CIP funds for government operations. Such plea in reverse is as steady as our erratic weather. Call it instability, the boon for locals, bane for investors.

Nor would Washington be willing to listen to any NMI request for financial assistance when the Tinian Health Center runs out of supplies or its nurses suffer payless paydays. But the second senatorial district could fork out \$100K to pay its very busy and hardworking gaming commissioners.

Our retirement program has been efficiently generous and now stands ready to declare bankruptcy, rather troubled by its inability to navigate its own red ink. Or the dalliance and cultural reluctance to embrace the "equal protection clause" of the U.S. Constitution to ensure that natural rights of *all* U.S. citizens are fully protected.

A lot can be done with sober minds and a willingness to shove aside adolescence in favor of forging mature and unified paradigms to move the NMI forward. Unless we're willing to proactively work the clock on a myriad of issues requiring sober minds, we'd be circling the truck all day looking for the keys when it's been lodged in the ignition all along. Please spare us the trivial residuum that we've found the enemy and the Enemy Is Us! That would be a dollar short and a day late, right?

Let's take a retreat and use the self-imposed traditional ethical injunction and focus on rebuilding the local economy. After all, it's our transcendent duties as a people to own up to our responsibilities and begin anew.

The major problem was that at the base of the hills, there was a river running through the town. In order to climb into the hills, you had to cross the river. But there were only two bridges, which was the reason we were told not to drive. There simply wasn't space or time to try to get hundreds of cars across those bridges.

You had to pick the closest bridge and head for it, hoping that in a real emergency, the bridge would still be there so that you could get across.

I never made it to the foothills in my allotted time, no matter how fast I left my house or how vehemently I ran. At 10 minutes, I was always still crossing the river bottom, careening toward the bridge but not able to reach it. In a real disaster, I would have been swept away, killed.

The geologic records for the Oregon coast show that the area experiences a major tsunami every 200 years with frightening regularity. By the time I moved away from that dangerous history, the town was 50 years overdue. I didn't move just because I couldn't win the tsunami race, but it was a factor.

I came to California. I live inland. And the Big One here? Way overdue.

Cheryl Holt is the author of 27 novels. She lives in Burbank, Calif., and she wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Letters to the Editor

Governor vetoes SB 17-20

On behalf of all my students, (not just the younger ones), their parents, friends, and significant others, plus our wide network of program supporters, I wish to thank the governor and his administration for recognizing that driver education is good for the Commonwealth. The key term here, of course, is "education."

To the CNMI Legislature: Over the past 14 months I have offered

Here we go again!

When will Lang and Torres wake up and smell local opinion? OK Stanley, Froilan, time to explain this to you once more. Basic math here: No money for MVA = no new tourists = no new money. Waiting for investors to miraculously find the CNMI = No new local industries = no new money. No new strategies for fixing/improving the economy = no new money. Increasing your salaries and funds = stupid. Building a new casino (against the will of the people of

Individuals who are driving on the streets of the CNMI without a license are, in reality, breaking the law. The solution: education. We teach "respect for the rule of law" as part of our curriculum.

The students are encouraged to be "part of the solution"; not "part of the problem." Those individuals who enroll into my course are doing just that. They are choosing to obey the laws that were, in fact, drafted by these lawmakers.

Rich Puhalla

ISTS - Driver Training Academy
Susupe, Saipan

By the way, judging by the reaction of folks on the Variety's comment page, Saipan doesn't want a new casino; only you two seem to want it. Why is that? Why are you pushing so hard for it when the folks who elected you say no? Elementary math for CNMI politicians: 1 + 1 = 2; 2 + 1 = 3; and 3 - 0 = Froilan, Stanley and Uncle Ben standing around asking each other, "What do we do now?"






Paul Beebe

Spokane, Washington

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼76
Chuuk	Rain	▲83 ▼76
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲87 ▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲90 ▼77
Majuro	Rain	▲83 ▼77

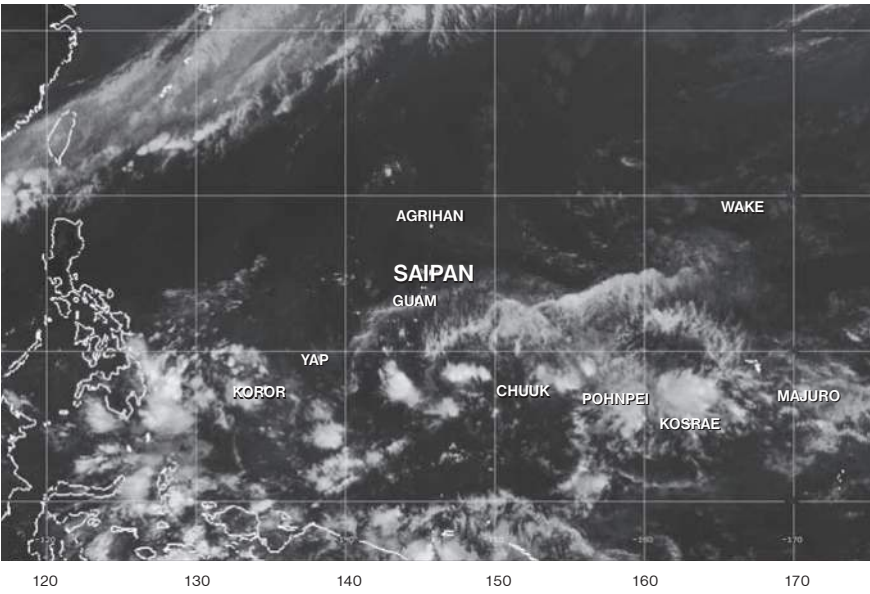
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲62 ▼55
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲81 ▼59
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲82 ▼76
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲66 ▼52
Los Angeles	Showers	▲64 ▼56
Manila	Thundershowers	▲92 ▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲64 ▼46
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼72
New York	Rain	▲66 ▼61
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲76 ▼60
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲75 ▼54
Pusan	Windy	▲69 ▼60
Rome	Sunny	▲77 ▼56
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼42
San Francisco	Showers	▲57 ▼51
Seoul	Showers	▲70 ▼58
Tokyo	Sunny	▲74 ▼60
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲71 ▼60

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:02 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
7:03 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet	
2:26 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
9:27 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from 6N130E passing south of Koror through a circulation west of Chuuk at 7N147E to end near 5N154E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found just west of Koror west of 134E from 6N to 10N south of Yap within an area bounded by a line from 6N139E to 3N143E to EQ138E back to 6N139E and west of Chuuk between 6N and 9N from 143E to 149E. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across Pohnpei and Kosrae within an area bounded by a line from 10N155E to 8N165E to 5N166E to 5N159E to EQ155E back to 10N155E. A surface trough extends northeastward from 4N168E across the Marshall Islands to 12N174E. Scattered showers are occurring across Majuro within an area bounded by a line from 10N173E to 9N174E to 2N170E to 5N169E back to 10N173E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:33 PM	6:06 AM
Thursday	8:33 PM	7:06 AM
Friday	9:29 PM	8:06 AM
Saturday	10:19 PM	9:04 AM
Sunday	11:04 PM	10:00 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
			via NRT	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
			via GUM	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
			via ICN	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM				via ICN
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
			via ICN	OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; CZ: 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Exercise KONFITMA



Two "victims" of a car bomb that accidentally "detonated" near a Kagman school wait for rescue and firefighter teams that didn't come until about an hour later yesterday noon, as part of a 36-hour full scale all-hazard exercise that tested the preparedness of the CNMI's emergency responders. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



One of the "victims" of a car bomb lie beside a "stolen chlorine tank" that "started to leak" before rescue teams could come near the Kagman Fire Station, as part of a full-scale drill yesterday. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



One of the "mannequin" victims is pinned down by rubble from a collapsed structure near a car bomb that accidentally exploded before it reached its target school in Kagman, as part of an anti-terror training yesterday. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



Firefighters try to decontaminate one of the "victims" of a car bomb that accidentally exploded near a Kagman school as part of a full-scale all-hazard exercise yesterday. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



Two service members set up a command center near the entrance to the Port of Saipan where authorities discovered an emission of chemical odor that was later identified as Radium 226, as part of yesterday's full-scale all-hazard exercise that brought in hundreds of local and federal emergency responders and trainers together. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



An emergency responder checks a vehicle exiting the Port of Saipan of chemical contamination as part of a Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Explosive Situational Training Exercise dubbed as exercise "KONFITMA." **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



▲ Members of the Department of Public Safety's elite Tactical Response Enforcement Team emerge from the Port of Saipan after taking part in a full-scale anti-terror exercise. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**

► Department of Public Health personnel screen vehicles entering the Commonwealth Health Center premises after a lockdown of the CNMI's only hospital where victims of four terrorism-related incidents were brought in as part of yesterday's Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Explosive Situational Training Exercise. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**



Pacific

RADIO AUSTRALIA'S PACIFIC BREAK 2011

Contest now open for unsigned Pacific musicians

MELBOURNE—Once again the opportunity for Pacific musicians to share and display their new musical talent from around

the Pacific has returned.

Pacific Break 2011 is now officially open with entries being showcased online at www.radioaustralia.net.au/pacific-break

and across Radio Australia's network of Pacific FM frequencies.

Over the past three years Pacific Break has uncovered some amazing musical talent from Palau to the Cook Islands

in the quest to discover the best unsigned original musicians the Pacific has to offer.

Last year's winners from the Solomon Islands were III Kings and lead singer Chris Andris said, "Winning Radio Australia's Pacific Break last year was the best thing that ever happened to us. It was a great experience and we made our country very proud."

III Kings with their heavy bass reggae track *You Alone Me Magnify* was the stand out entry from Pacific Break 2010, along with other highly regarded entries such as Fiji's uniquely talented Milkshake with *Channel 1*, Solomon Islands artist Deskem with his song *Work Done My Fren* and PNG's ever talented Sam Clark with *Here We Go Again*.

This year, Radio Australia maintains its partnership with Fest'Napuan in Vanuatu, ensuring that the winner has the opportunity to perform in a key spot at the annual four-day pan-Pacific music festival in November.

"Once again we're delighted to host the winner of Radio Australia's Pacific Break," says Ralph Regenvanu, head of the Fest'Napuan organizing committee, "Over the past three years, the Pacific Break winners have been a real highlight of the festival."

If you live in the Pacific, and

are an unsigned unpublished musician you can submit your best original song for inclusion into this year's Pacific Break competition online at: www.radioaustralia.net.au/pacificbreak.

Entries to Radio Australia's Pacific Break 2011 officially close on Oct. 3, with the winning entry playing live at Fest'napuan in Vanuatu in November.

Previous Pacific Break winners include 26 Roots from Santo in Vanuatu, Emmanuel Mailau from Port Moresby in PNG, and Honiara act III Kings from Solomon Islands.

Have you got what it takes? To check out what's happening on Pacific Break:

LOOK at our website: www.radioaustralia.net.au/pacificbreak

LIKE us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pacificbreak

FOLLOW us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/pacificbreak

LISTEN to us on the radio: **PNG** • Port Moresby • 101.9FM; **PNG** • Lae • 102.1FM; **Solomon Islands** • Honiara • 107FM; **Vanuatu** • Port Vila & Santo • 103FM; **Fiji** • Suva & Nadi • 92.6FM; **Samoa** • Apia • 102FM; **Tonga** • Nuku'alofa • 103FM; **Cook Islands** • Rarotonga • 93FM; **Kiribati** • Tarawa • 90FM; **Palau** • Koror • 91.5FM. (PR)



SAFE BOATING WEEK

▲ **ADELUP, Guam**—The Auxiliary Commodore for the 14th Coast Guard District, Burkhard Berger, front row, second from right, attends a Safe Boating Week proclamation signing by Guam Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio, front row, second from left, on May 11, 2011. The proclamation declares that May 21 through May 28 as Safe Boating Week in Guam. The Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary advise all mariners to take appropriate safety precautions so they can fully enjoy their time on the water without incident.

USCG

UOG ARMY ROTC AWARDEE

▲ Cadet Maj. Raena Purugganan Guerrero received the George C. Marshall Award on April 29. The Marshall Award is given to the most outstanding cadet in military studies and leadership in the Triton Warrior UOG ROTC Military Science senior class. Guerrero has completed the Leadership Development Assessment Course and continues to demonstrate leadership and scholastic qualities that emulate the career of Gen. George C. Marshall. Pictured from left are UOG professor of Military Science Lt. Col. John Howerton and Guerrero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Guam agencies team up to rescue boater

GUAM—U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam received a report Monday night from Guam Fire Rescue Dispatch that a 14-foot aluminum skiff with one person onboard was overdue after departing from Merizo Pier that morning.

Sector Guam requested Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 launch to assist GFR in

locating the skiff, which was reported to have no navigation lights, no radio, and no cell phone on board.

HSC-25 quickly located the skiff about a mile west from its last known position near the entrance to Mamaon Channel and directed the GFR boat to the skiff's location. GFR then towed

disabled skiff into Merizo Pier.

"This case highlights the interoperability of the Coast Guard, Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25, and Guam Fire Rescue for inland search and rescue. Each agency plays a critical role, and together we get the job done," said Capt. Thomas M. Sparks, Command-

er, Sector Guam.

Mariners are reminded to maintain basic safety equipment on board their vessels and make reports of marine emergencies to emergency responders by calling 911, contacting the Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center on VHF Channel 16, or by calling 671-564-USCG. (USCG)

9 hikers rescued near Sigua Falls in Guam

GUAM—Coast Guard Sector Guam received a report Sunday night from Guam Fire Rescue that nine hikers were lost in the vicinity of Sigua Falls. Sector Guam requested Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 launch to assist GFR in locating the hikers.

GFR was able to instruct the hikers on how to access GPS tracking on their cell phone, which aided the helicopter crew in locating the hikers at their GPS position. Navy search and rescue responders on scene determined that the terrain would be too difficult

for the hikers to get out on foot and opted to hoist them and their dog to safety. No injuries were reported.

"Incidents like this occur often on Guam," said Lt. Gregg Maye, supervisor of the Sector Guam Command Center, "The key is to be prepared for what

might happen when you depart on a hike."

Reports of marine emergencies should be made by calling 911, contacting the Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center on VHF Channel 16, or by calling 671-564-USCG. (USCG)

Coast guard spouses learn CPR, first aid

ASAN, Guam—Coast Guard spouses from the Coast Guard Spouse Friendship Group and dependents learned basic first aid and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation last week from an Emergency First Response Corporation-certified instructor.

Students were provided independent study materials to read prior to the training and then they engaged in a series of activities. The course began with a review of key terms and basic procedures and continued with hands on techniques for bandaging, splinting, using an Au-

tomated External Defibrillator, and CPR. The course culminated with a comprehensive exam.

This was a first for this type of course for the Coast Guard Spouse Group. But given its success, it will be offered again this year.

The instructor, Kim Harris, said the course is aimed at empowering its students to help others. "I hope that each participant left the session with confidence knowing that they can trust their training and not to fear helping someone in need," she said. (USCG)



USCG

Coast Guard dependents Erin Lofing and Imani Heron use the Automated External Defibrillator on Baby Annie, an infant simulator, during a first aid and CPR course.

Business

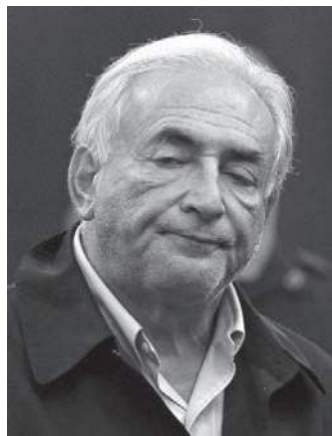
IMF chief jailed without bail in NY hotel-sex case

NEW YORK (AP)—Haggard and unshaven after a weekend in jail, the chief of the International Monetary Fund was denied release on bail Monday on charges of trying to rape a hotel maid as allegations of other, similar attacks by Dominique Strauss-Kahn began to spill out.

In France, a lawyer for a novelist said the writer is likely to file a criminal complaint accusing Strauss-Kahn of sexually assaulting her nine years ago. A French lawmaker accused him of attacking other maids in previous stays at the same luxury hotel. And in New York, prosecutors said they are working to verify reports of at least one other case.

Strauss-Kahn's weekend arrest rocked the financial world as the IMF grapples with the European debt crisis, and upended French presidential politics. Strauss-Kahn, a member of France's Socialist party, was widely considered the strongest potential challenger next year to President Nicolas Sarkozy.

Making his first appearance on the sex charges, a grim-looking Strauss-Kahn stood slumped before a judge in a dark



Strauss-Kahn

raincoat and open-collared shirt. The 62-year-old, silver-haired Strauss-Kahn said nothing as a lawyer professed his innocence and strove in vain to get him released on bail.

The judge ruled against him after prosecutors warned that the wealthy banker might flee to France and put himself beyond the reach of U.S. law like the filmmaker Roman Polanski.

"This battle has just begun," defense attorney Benjamin Brafman told scores of reporters outside the courthouse, adding that Strauss-Kahn might appeal the bail denial.

Strauss-Kahn is accused of attacking a maid who had gone

in to clean his penthouse suite Saturday afternoon at a luxury hotel near Times Square. He is charged with attempted rape, sex abuse, a criminal sex act, unlawful imprisonment and forcible touching. The most serious charge carries five to 25 years in prison.

Strauss-Kahn, who has headed the international lending agency since 2007, was in New York on personal business and was paying his own way, so he cannot claim diplomatic immunity, the IMF said. He could seek that protection only if he were conducting official business, spokesman William Murray said.

The French newspaper *Le Monde*, citing people close to Strauss-Kahn, said he had reserved the \$3,000-a-night suite at the Sofitel hotel for one night for a quick trip to have lunch with his daughter, who is studying in New York.

The 32-year-old maid told authorities that she thought the suite was empty but that Strauss-Kahn emerged from the bathroom naked, chased her down a hallway, pulled her into a bedroom and dragged her into a bathroom, police said.

agency credit.

Draghi's candidacy overcame initial skepticism about putting someone from Italy in charge of the ECB, given the country's high levels of debt and shaky record on inflation. Fighting inflation is the ECB's chief mandate under the treaty that established it.

Jean-Claude Juncker, the prime minister of Luxembourg who also chairs the eurozone group meetings, said Monday that Draghi "brings together all the qualities to be a worthy successor to Jean-Claude Trichet."

Juncker called Draghi "a central banker who has proved throughout his career that he holds very dear the principles of the euro and European monetary integration."

countries are expected to give final approval to Draghi's candidacy in the next few weeks, after consultations with the European Parliament and the European Central Bank's governing council.

Draghi, a former World Bank and Italian treasury official, would take over the Frankfurt-based bank for an eight-year term after current ECB head Jean-Claude Trichet leaves on Oct. 31.

The bank sets interest rates for 17 countries with 331 million people. It has also played a lead role in fighting Europe's government debt crisis, consulting on bailouts for Greece, Portugal and Ireland and keeping shaky banks afloat with emer-

could disrupt refineries and supplies in the Gulf region. (AP)

Buffett's firm discloses investment in MasterCard

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—Warren Buffett's company added a new stake in MasterCard Inc. during the first quarter, but made few other changes in its holdings. Berkshire Hathaway Inc. filed a quarterly update on its \$53.6 billion U.S. stock portfolio with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Monday. The filing shows Berkshire's holdings on March 31, and it revealed 216,000 shares of MasterCard. The filing also shows Berkshire sold 8,000 of its 29.1 million ConocoPhillips shares.

Conn. man who ran \$100M Ponzi scheme gets prison

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—A man who tricked hundreds of investors into giving him more than \$100 million on a promise of fat profits on diamonds and distressed properties was sentenced Monday to 10 years in prison. Michael Goldberg, 40, of Wethersfield, was also ordered by a federal judge in Hartford to pay at least \$500 a month in restitution after he's released, based on what he can afford, and to undergo substance abuse and mental health evaluations and treatment. He remains free on bail and must report to prison July 18.

Nation

Giffords at husband's launch on 2nd last shuttle

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—A space shuttle took flight for the next-to-last time Monday as Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, still recovering from a gunshot wound and hidden from public view, watched her astronaut husband rocket through the clouds in a deafening roar.

Giffords and the other crew families were described as awe-struck and silent on the rooftop of the launch control center.

"Good stuff, good stuff," she said from her wheelchair when it was quiet again, according to a congressional aide.

Giffords joined the other five astronauts' wives and children on top of the Kennedy Space Center building to watch Endeavour's last voyage as NASA winds down the 30-year-old shuttle program. After liftoff, there were hugs all around, the aide said.

Endeavour disappeared so quickly into the clouds that the launch manager apologized later to the hundreds of thousands who jammed nearby roads and towns.

Giffords' husband, Mark Kelly, is Endeavour's commander and his twin astronaut brother, Scott, gave red tulips to Giffords once he safely



The space shuttle Endeavour lifts off from Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., Monday, May 16, 2011.

reached orbit.

Kelly carried her wedding ring into space, which he has done in the past. This time, she wanted something back: his ring to stay on Earth. She had it around her neck on a silver chain from a funky Arizona jewelry store that included a heart and an Arizona map.

"She was very proud. She's always proud of Mark," Giffords' chief of staff Pia Carusone said at a press conference.

Giffords has difficulty speaking, but Carusone said Giffords' comment after the launch was one of the congresswoman's oft-used expressions.

That Giffords would watch the shuttle launch seemed improbable a little more than four months ago. The would-be assassin shot her in the head, critically wounding her, killing six people and injuring 12 others at a political event in her hometown of Tucson, Ariz.

Levees, floodwalls require round-the-clock watch

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—All along the swollen Mississippi River, hundreds of thousands of lives depend on a small army of engineers, deputies and even prison inmates keeping round-the-clock watch at the many floodwalls and earthen levees holding the water back.

They are looking for any droplets that seep through the barriers and any cracks that threaten to turn small leaks into big problems. The work is hot and sometimes tedious, but without it, the flooding that has caused weeks of misery from Illinois to the Mississippi Delta could get much worse.

"I volunteered for this," said jail inmate Wayne McClinton, who was helping with the

sandbagging effort in northern Louisiana's Tensas Parish. "It's a chance to get out in the air, to do something different. It's not boring like prison is."

To take pressure off levees near Baton Rouge and New Orleans, engineers have opened two major spillways. After water was released over the weekend at the Morganza spillway near Baton Rouge, deputies and National Guardsmen fanned out to warn residents in its path, most of whom have heeded the call to seek higher ground.

Bernadine Turner, who lives in a mandatory evacuation zone near Krotz Springs, spent a third day Monday moving her things out. Water was not ex-

pected to reach the town about 40 miles west of Baton Rouge for several days, but most residents were taking no chances.

"There's no doubt it's going to come up. We don't have flood insurance, and most people here don't. Man, it would be hard to start all over," she said.

Snow melt and rain have sent a relentless torrent of water down the Mississippi this spring. On Monday, President Barack Obama flew to Memphis, Tenn., to comfort families affected when the river rose last week to within inches of the record set in 1937. Some low-lying neighborhoods were inundated, but levees protected much of the rest.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil drops below \$98; pump prices fall over weekend

Oil prices dropped Monday, a good sign for drivers who are finally seeing a little relief at the gas pump. The average price for a gallon of regular fell 3 cents over the week to \$3.955 nationally. That's still nearly 14 cents more than it was a month ago, according to AAA, Wright Express and the Oil Price Information Service. Oil futures settled down 2.3 percent and gasoline futures dropped 4.7 percent Monday as investors returned their attention to weakening demand for gasoline in the U.S. Both contracts had gained slightly last week amid concerns that Mississippi River flooding

ACROSS THE NATION

Building collapses in Ark., killing young girl

MORRILTON, Ark. (AP)—A cosmetic store and a bridal boutique that was undergoing renovations collapsed in central Arkansas on Monday, killing a young girl and injuring at least five other people, two of them seriously. Dozens of firefighters sifted through the wreckage left from the two-story brick building hours after rescuers pulled a young girl's body from the rubble and accounted for everyone else trapped inside. Investigators were trying to determine

whether ongoing construction at one of the ground-level stores, which sold wedding gowns, was to blame for the collapse about 50 miles northwest of Little Rock. Authorities had not declared an official cause by Monday evening.

6-year-old killed in W. Kentucky school bus crash

BARDWELL, Ky. (AP)—A school bus shuttling elementary children being rewarded with a day of swimming and games for reaching their reading goals swerved off a

two-lane highway and rolled over several times, killing a 6-year-old boy and injuring several others, authorities said on Monday. Pupils from Carlisle County Elementary School were returning from a recreation center 20 miles away in the city of Paducah, said Kentucky State Police Trooper Dean Patterson. The boy whose name was withheld until family had been notified was pronounced dead at the crash scene, said Carlisle County Coroner Steve Freeman. "I wish I hadn't seen it," Freeman said.

Asia

Japanese in expanded nuclear zone leave homes



Residents waded through a flooded road caused by spring tide in land-sunken area following the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, in Ishinomaki, Miyagi prefecture, northeastern Japan, Monday, May 16, 2011.

TOKYO (AP)—Japan said Monday it will stabilize and shut down its stricken nuclear power plant in six to nine months, as planned, as residents of two more towns around it evacuated amid concerns about accumulated radiation.

The government's timeline for stabilizing the plant was called into question last week after new data showed that the damage to one reactor at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear complex was worse than expected. That assessment also prompted the government to acknowledge that the reactor's fuel rods had mostly melted soon after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami knocked out the plant's cooling system.

Until all the reactors are safe-

ly shut down, they continue to leak radiation, though in much smaller amounts than in the early days of the disaster. Still, the sheer volume of contaminants spewed from the plant—and their buildup in places outside the 12-mile (20-kilometer) evacuation zone—persuaded the government to order residents to leave more towns in late April. Some of those evacuations began this weekend.

In a rare bit of good news, authorities said Monday that their original timeline for stabilizing the reactors is achievable because the temperature inside the Unit 1 reactor core has fallen to nearly 100 Celsius (212 F), a level considered safe and close to a cold shutdown.

"We believe we can stick to the current timeframe," said Goshi Hosono, the prime minister's aide and nuclear crisis task force director, referring to the timeline laid out in April of bringing the plants three troubled reactors to a cold and stable shutdown in six to nine months.

"What's crucial is how we can proceed with cooling. Even though the cores had melted, they are somewhat kept cool," Hosono said.

The plant, operated by the Tokyo Electric Power Co., is still leaking a massive amount of contaminated water—just one of many problems facing workers who have been trying to bring it under control the last two months.

Pakistan given the suspicions generated by the bin Laden raid.

"Members of Congress are not confident that things can be patched up again," said Kerry, who chairs the U.S. Senate's Foreign Relations Committee and is considered a friend of Pakistan. "That is why actions not words are going to be critical to earning their votes."

Bin Laden's hideaway in Abbottabad, which also houses Pakistan's version of West Point, has compounded questions in America's eyes over this country's reliability as an ally. Pakistanis reacted angrily to the U.S. incursion on their soil.

Kerry's public comments and a later joint statement with Pakistan's army and intelligence chiefs after a series of meetings indicated willingness on both sides to stabilize a vital relationship.

Although the United States says it has no evidence that Pakistan's civil or military leadership knew of bin Laden's whereabouts, the knowledge that the U.S. might find some evidence in the documents seized in the terror leader's compound has given it new leverage over Islamabad.

Pakistan has long balked at U.S. requests to crack down on Afghan Taliban factions on its soil. The Taliban and al-Qaida have close ties, and suspicions over Pakistani complicity in hiding bin Laden have fostered further questions about whether Pakistan is not only tolerating but perhaps even supporting other militants.

Kerry noted that several members of the U.S. Congress no longer want to authorize U.S. aid to

as a stand-in for Thaksin. She would likely become Thailand's first female prime minister if the opposition Pheu Thai Party wins the July 3 polls, which are expected to be close.

Myanmar president announces clemency for prisoners

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar announced a long-expected clemency program for prisoners on Monday, but its

terms are limited and its scope is unclear. State television and radio reported that President Thein Sein signed a "general amnesty" order on humanitarian grounds commuting death sentences to life imprisonment and cutting one year from convicts' prison terms. The announcement did not say how many prisoners are covered by the order or if any of the country's more than 2,000 political prisoners will be released.

World

War crimes prosecutor seeks arrest of Gadhafi

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor sought arrest warrants Monday for Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, his son and the country's intelligence chief for authorizing the killing of civilians in a crackdown on anti-government rebels.

Gadhafi's government denied the allegations.

The call for the inquest was the first such action in the Netherlands-based court linked to the Arab uprisings. It opened another potential front against Gadhafi's regime even as the autocratic leader stands firm against widening NATO airstrikes and rebels with growing international backing.

At least two explosions could be heard in Tripoli early Tuesday, indicating more NATO airstrikes. It was not immediately known what was targeted or whether there were any casualties. The sound of sporadic gunfire could be heard in downtown Tripoli.

NATO has stepped up its air-

strikes in Tripoli in an apparent attempt to weaken Gadhafi's chief stronghold, the Libyan capital, and potentially target the leader himself.

The international warrants could further isolate Gadhafi and his inner circle and potentially complicate the options for a negotiated settlement. But they also could harden Gadhafi's resolve to stand and fight, since the legal action has been seen in Libya as giving NATO more justification to go after him.

Because the United Nations Security Council ordered the ICC investigation, U.N. member states would be obliged to arrest him if he ventured into their territory.

Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said he was seeking warrants against Gadhafi, his son, Seif al-Islam Gadhafi, and intelligence chief Abdullah al-Sanoussi for ordering, planning and participating in illegal attacks. The younger Gadhafi has become one of the public faces of the regime

through frequent interviews with the media.

Moreno-Ocampo said he had evidence that Gadhafi's forces attacked civilians in their homes, shot at demonstrators with live ammunition, shelled funeral processions and deployed snipers to kill people leaving mosques.

Judges must now evaluate the evidence before deciding whether to confirm the charges and issue international arrest warrants.

Still, an earlier case where the ICC did step in at the request of the U.N. didn't result in the desired arrest. Although Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir has been indicted for crimes including genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan, at least three countries have let him visit without detaining him.

Asked why he has not launched similar investigations into other Arab uprisings, Moreno-Ocampo said that no such action had been requested by the Security Council, as it was in the case of Libya.

Horrific picture emerges of besieged Syrian town

WADI KHALED, Lebanon (AP)—Using horses and mules to carry their possessions, Syrians crossed a shallow river Monday to reach safety in Lebanon with tales of a "catastrophic" scene back home: sectarian killings, gunmen carrying out execution-style slayings and the stench of decomposing bodies in the streets.

The accounts are bound together by a sense of growing desperation as President Bashar Assad's regime expands its crackdown on an uprising that has entered a third month with no sign of letting up.

At least 16 people—eight of them members of the same family—have been killed in recent days in Talkalakh, a town of about 70,000 residents that has been under siege since Thursday, wit-

nesses and activists say.

The deaths boost an already staggering toll, with more than 850 people killed nationwide since mid-March, according to the National Organization for Human Rights in Syria.

"The situation in the city is catastrophic," said a 55-year-old Syrian who asked to be identified only by his first name, Ahmad. He crossed the border into Lebanon before dawn Monday.

"If you walk in the streets of Talkalakh you can smell the dead bodies," he said.

Residents interviewed by The Associated Press on Monday as they crossed into Lebanon said their town, which has held weekly anti-government rallies, came under attack by the army, security forces and shadowy, pro-regime gunmen

known as "shabiha."

Residents recognized the shabiha by their black clothes and red arm bands—apparently worn so they can recognize each other in the confusion of an attack.

Four residents independently told the AP that shabiha gunmen killed a man named Adnan al-Kurdi along with his wife, five daughters and a son in their home—a harrowing story that could not be independently verified. None of those interviewed knew why the family was killed. But they said the killings motivated them to leave.

"We did not want to have our throats slit," said Umm Rashid, who fled to Lebanon with her seven daughters by hopping on a truck that carried dozens on a short trip across the frontier.

Vatican suggests bishops report abuse to police

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The Vatican told bishops around the world Monday that it is important to cooperate with police in reporting priests who rape and molest children and asked them to develop guidelines for preventing sex abuse by next May.

But the letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith made no provision to ensure the bishops actually follow the guidelines, and victims groups immediately denounced the recommendations as "dangerously flawed" because they stress the exclusive authority of bishops to determine the credibility of abuse allegations.

The letter marks the latest effort by the Vatican to show

that it is serious about rooting out pedophiles from the priesthood, a year after the sex abuse scandal exploded on a global scale with thousands of new victims coming forward in Europe and beyond.

It is significant in that it marks a universal directive to all the world's bishops to establish "clear and coordinated procedures" with superiors of religious orders to deal with pedophiles and care for their victims. It puts on paper that it is "important" for bishops to cooperate with police in investigating abuse allegations and that bishops should follow civil reporting laws where they exist.

But the vague, nonbinding measure failed to impress advocates for victims who have long blamed bishops bent on protecting the church and its priests for fueling the scandal. Without fear of punishment themselves, bishops frequently moved pedophile priests from parish to parish rather than reporting them to police or punishing them under church law.

"There's nothing that will make a child safer today or tomorrow or next month or next year," said Barbara Dorris, outreach director for the main U.S. victims group Survivors Network for Those Abused by Priests.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ousted Thai leader's sister named PM candidate

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's main opposition party on Monday nominated the sister of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra as its candidate for the top post in upcoming elections, a decision likely to inflame tensions in the country's highly polarized politics. Yingluck Shinawatra, 43, has little political experience and is seen

Focus

How a networking immigrant became a spy

Editor's Note: China, ever more powerful, has become a major instigator of espionage in the United States. Final part of a two-part series on that nation's efforts, many successful, to steal American secrets and technology.

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Locked in a federal penitentiary in the Arizona desert, Tai Kuo spends his days helping with the cooking, teaching language classes and tennis, making new friends.

The convicted spy, it seems, has become a mentor.

This surprises no one. Not the prosecutors who charged him. Not his old friends or colleagues, some of whom stand behind him still.

Because Tai Kuo is nothing if not likable. It's the very quality that allowed him to get close to people in high places.

His attorney, Plato Cacheris, says, "We have represented over the years a lot of scoundrels." But Kuo, "You always wanted to help him, if you will."

He wasn't a professional agent by any means. He was a tennis coach. A restaurateur. A businessman who lived with his wife and daughter in a Louisiana town known for swamp tours and charter fishing.

And yet his journey from entrepreneur to secret operative—one of dozens convicted in the last three years of efforts to pass secrets or restricted technology to the Chinese—is, in many ways, emblematic of the way China conducts espionage in the 21st century, experts say.

It is rooted in opportunity, nurtured by perseverance, sustained by greed. It relies on "guanxi," a you-scratch-my-back, I'll-scratch-yours notion of developing close relationships.

The Chinese took advantage of all of these things to cultivate Kuo, and then the man with the winning personality went to work for them. In the end, Kuo would convince two U.S. government employees to give him secret information, which he then conveyed to an official of China's communist government.

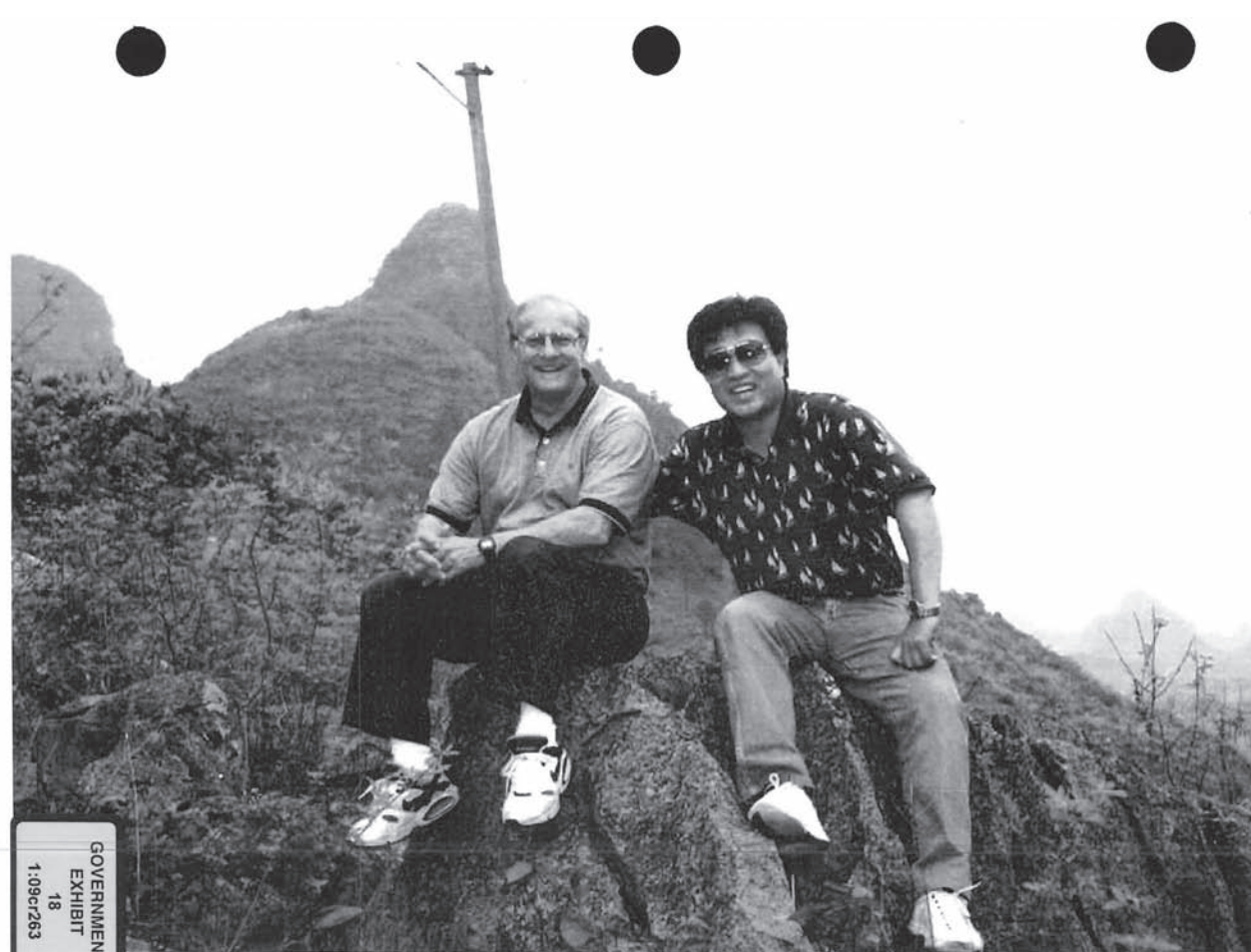
His networking skill would make Kuo wealthy, a shining immigrant success story, but it would also make him a convicted felon—a man denounced by a bitter ex-friend as "worse than a thief...a traitor."

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Even in his youth, Kuo (pronounced gwoh) knew how to forge connections with people who mattered. In his early 20s, still living in his native Taiwan, he worked as a tennis instructor at the American Institute in Taiwan, which performs the functions of a U.S. embassy. He soon landed in Louisiana in 1973 and used a tennis scholarship to attend Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, 70 miles (110 kilometers) from New Orleans.

Southern Louisiana became his home. Kuo graduated with a degree in business administration and accounting, married a woman from Taiwan, became a U.S. citizen and settled with his wife in Houma, Louisiana. He ran a tennis club, taught Chinese cooking lessons and oversaw the restaurant at the Houma country club before launching his own high-end Chinese eatery, "Mr. Tai's," in New Orleans.

In the late 1980s, with China growing more open to foreign investment, Kuo



This undated image made available by U.S. Department of Justice in April 2011 shows a government exhibit photograph of Tai Kuo and James Fondren on a trip to China. Kuo's journey from entrepreneur to spy is, in many ways, emblematic of how China conducts espionage in the 21st century. It is rooted in opportunity, nurtured by perseverance, sustained by greed over ideology and born of something known as "guanxi"—a "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" concept based on developing close relationships.

I see all these people who become very powerful and accumulate wealth. They think they can do whatever they want. That's when they fall to the bottom.

started a business working to market American expertise and products there. He teamed with a Louisiana legislator to sell cotton and promoted oil service companies for exploration work in the South China Sea.

"He was the matchmaker," says David Crais, former chairman of the Louisiana Imports and Exports Trust Authority, to which Kuo was appointed in 1992. "He was a wheeler-dealer kind of guy who had major contacts."

Crais recalls Kuo promising potential clients, "I'll get you in China," and he knew how to do it.

"He used to say there's a billion people, but there's a very small group that runs the whole show. If you tapped into the power networks, that's where you got business done."

Apparently, the center of Kuo's power network was a man named Lin Hong.

A friend introduced the two, telling Kuo, "He's a good person to know," someone who could help potential North American investors in China.

Hong, according to court papers, worked for the Guangdong Friendship Association, one of many groups in China whose stated aims are to promote good relations with foreign countries

and organizations. The association is backed by the Chinese government and hosts visits for private individuals and businesspeople. But foreign researchers also have tied the friendship groups to present-day efforts to collect intelligence.

Guangdong association did not immediately respond to queries about whether it has ever employed a Lin Hong.

As Kuo's travel to China increased, he would stop in the province of Guangdong and meet with Hong.

"Lin always was very, very (interested) about...the attitude of U.S. government to Chinese, the relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan ...," Kuo would later testify.

Kuo considered Hong a friend. However, U.S. investigators say Hong was Kuo's "handler," who for years tasked Kuo with gathering information from contacts in the U.S. government.

It started with a request for "opinion papers." Hong knew that Kuo was tight with various politicians and government officials. He wondered if Kuo could find someone to write papers to help him better understand U.S. attitudes toward China.

Kuo turned to a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel named Jim Fondren,

who was from Houma and had gotten to know Kuo through the country club. Fondren's area of expertise was Asia, after having worked doing strategic planning for the U.S. Pacific Command, the senior U.S. military authority in the Asia-Pacific region.

Sometime around 1997, Kuo approached Fondren about writing papers for Hong, whom he described, at Hong's suggestion, as working at an academic entity in Hong Kong.

Fondren received anywhere from a few hundred dollars to \$1,500 for his papers. He also was treated to a trip to China, where he, Kuo, Hong and Hong's boss played golf and took a boat trip.

Kuo, meanwhile, was currying favor with Hong, who he hoped would help him land a project in China. Kuo would later acknowledge his own motivation: "Just pure and simple greed."

Then something happened that gave Hong more leverage over Kuo. Around 2002, some Chinese engineers who worked with Kuo on a project in Taiwan were arrested upon their return to China and accused of espionage. Kuo turned to Hong to help get them out of prison.

After that, Kuo would say later, Hong got more pushy.

"You go to Washington more often," he testified Hong demanded, and the things he wanted were sometimes "very sensitive."

And as Hong put more pressure on Kuo, Kuo put more pressure on Fondren, who, as it happened, had returned to work with the U.S. government in 2001. He was based inside the Pentagon as the deputy director of the Pacific Command's Washington liaison office, a position that granted him a "Top Secret" security clearance.

Fondren continued to produce opinion papers about such topics as talks between the Department of Defense and China's People's Liberation Army and a joint exercise conducted between the U.S. and Chinese navies. One paper incorporated information from a Department of Defense report classified as "confidential."

Fondren also provided various publications, including a draft copy of an annual Defense report on the People's Liberation Army.

To help persuade Fondren to keep giving him information, Kuo, at Hong's suggestion, told him his papers were now going to government officials in Taiwan rather than to Hong.

Kuo would use the same approach in wooing a second tipster.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

The FBI videotape shows the inside of a rental car, with Kuo in the passenger seat. He pulls out a wad of cash and then stuffs the money into the shirt pocket of the driver, Gregg Bergersen, and the two proceed to talk business.

"Now, the other information...I'm very, very, very, very reticent to let you have it because it's all classified ...," Bergersen tells him. "But I will let you see it and you can take all the notes you want....But if it ever fell into the wrong hands, and I know it's not going to... then I would be fired for sure. I'd go to jail, because I violated all the rules."

They stop for lunch, and Bergersen hands Kuo a thick document. For an hour Kuo takes notes from the document, which details the quantity, dollar value and names of weapons systems planned for sale by the United States to Taiwan for five years.

It was July 14, 2007, and Kuo was on one of his many information-gathering trips to Washington.

Bergersen worked as a weapons systems policy analyst at the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, an arm of the Department of Defense that facilitates military sales overseas. His specialty was C4ISR, a sophisticated military command, control and communications network.

As one of his many business enterprises, Kuo was pursuing contracts with Taiwan related to its version of C4ISR. By 2004, he and Bergersen had formed a business relationship. Bergersen wanted to promote C4ISR in Taiwan and believed Kuo could help. The two would go to dinner, with Kuo picking up the tab. They discussed going into business upon Bergersen's retirement, and Kuo promised a job with a six-figure salary. They traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada, and Kuo gave Bergersen gambling money and show tickets.

In return, Bergersen supplied Kuo

See HOW on Next Page

Campus Life

28 SSHS students earn reading certificates

Twenty-eight Saipan Southern High School students received their Motherread/Fatheread certificates on Friday at the SSHS library. The students went through eight sessions of training with SSHS librarian Sudi Napalan.

"It is a great accomplishment for our students to participate in this community literacy program," said Napalan, a Motherread/Fatheread trainer. "We have several students who are now parents and this program is a terrific way to equip them on how to encourage their children to read. We also have students who have siblings and they also provided support for our working parents."

Motherread offers classes for both adults and children. In adult classes, participants learn to be story readers, writers, and tellers in a group structure that supports their own sense of worth and ability. These classes are appropriate for all adults, regardless of reading ability or prior educational experience. By teaching the "why" of reading rather than just emphasizing the "how," classes encourage parents to be reading role models for their children. For children, Story Exploring provides a structured environment for learning reading, critical-thinking, and problem solving skills.

Saipan Southern High School acknowledged the help of Jesse Tudela, Viola Deleon Guerrero, Bryan Manabat, and NMI Council for the Humanities for making this program available for its students. (PR)



Saipan Southern High School librarian Sudi Napalan poses with students who went through eight sessions of Motherread/Fatheread training at the SSHS library.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



MARCH AGAINST CANCER

TanHoldings and Kagman High School students prepare for their introductory march at the 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer last Friday night.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CAMPUS BULLETIN

NMC graduation 2011 important dates

The Northern Marianas College is inviting all community members to its 31st Commencement Exercise on Saturday, May 21, 2011, at 4pm at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The college is also reminding all graduates to note the following dates:

- May 18, 6:15pm: Graduation Mass at Mt. Carmel Cathedral

- May 20, 4pm: Graduation rehearsal at MHS Gym

- May 21, 4pm: Graduation ceremony at MHS Gym

All graduates are asked to be

at the MHS Gym by 3:30pm on May 21 in preparation for the procession. (NMC)

UOG Math Camp

Public high school seniors who have a 2.0 grade point average or above and who want to pursue a college degree are invited to apply for the University of Guam's Math Camp on June 6 - 17. The camp runs weekdays from 9am to 12pm and covers the nine math content areas that are included in UOG's math placement test. Once students complete math camp they can take the UOG math

placement test.

Students who complete camp and take the math placement test are eligible to receive a scholarship from UOG which will cover 50 percent of tuition costs for a GCC or UOG fall 2011 semester math class. Seats are limited for George Washington, John F. Kennedy, Simon Sanchez, Southern, and Okkodu high school students only. Deadline to register: May 20, 2011. Download the Math Camp application at www.uog.edu. For more information contact wendellmroden@yahoo.com. (UoG)

HOW

From Page 17

with classified information related to C4ISR and other U.S. defense technology and communications systems, which Kuo then gave to Hong.

Kuo began using encryption software to send e-mails and also enlisted a "cutout"—a young woman who had worked with him in the furniture import business and with whom he began having an affair—to sometimes serve as a go-between with him and Hong.

To avoid detection, Hong suggested that Kuo buy prepaid phone cards and use public telephones. He wanted him to change his email addresses often and mail documents to him from the airport or other public locations. For the most part, Kuo ignored his advice.

He would testify later: "I didn't think I can get caught."

But FBI agents had stumbled upon Lin Hong's name in a separate investigation of a California engineer who illegally exported military technology to China. Investigative work in that case led to Kuo, and agents began planting recording devices in his rental cars and watching his Internet activity. They also bugged Fondren's home, and watched Bergersen.

On Feb. 11, 2008, almost two decades after his first meeting with Lin Hong, Kuo was arrested and charged with espionage.

Quickly pleading guilty, he began cooperating with the government.

He testified against his old friend Fondren, helping convict him of communicating classified information to an agent of a foreign government and making false statements to the FBI.

On the stand, Fondren himself said: "I had no idea that the guy that I thought was one of my best friends, one of the great American success stories, was worse than a thief. He's a traitor to this country....I'm the first to salute the government for getting him."

Sentenced in 2010 to three years, Fondren remains in a federal penitentiary in Pennsylvania. He did not respond to written requests to be interviewed.

Bergersen, who was arrested the same day as Kuo, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to communicate national defense information and was sentenced to almost five years in prison, although he is scheduled to be released to home confinement in Texas by the end of June. He maintains that he did not act for financial gain but rather to help promote the defense system he had spent years working on.

"I deluded myself into believing it was acceptable to act illegally for good results," Bergersen said in a written testimonial forwarded to The Associated Press by his cousin. "I know now that I was not deceived by Kuo's lies and deceptions but by my own sins."

In the end, the information

Fondren and Bergersen passed to Kuo caused little or no harm to national security, their sentencing judges determined. But that does little to minimize Kuo's actions in the eyes of his family or former friends. His wife divorced him, and his daughter will not speak to him, according to friends.

"I don't know what happened to Tai, other than he was the victim of my invincibility theory," says Danny Lirette, a Houma attorney who remains close to Kuo and speaks with him regularly. (Kuo refused to be interviewed by the AP.) "I see all these people who become very powerful and accumulate wealth and are surrounded by people who tell them how great they are. They think they can do whatever they want. That's when they fall to the bottom."

Initially, Kuo was sentenced to nearly 16 years in prison, but that was reduced last year to five years, thanks to his cooperation with authorities. Lirette says he could be released to a halfway house by the end of this year, and that he will find a way to start again.

"He's going to be fine," says Lirette. "He'll have some struggles. But Tai...he doesn't give up."

This story is based on interviews with Justice Department officials, Kuo's attorneys and friends, and a review of court documents in the Kuo, Bergersen and Fondren cases, including testimony at Fondren's trial.

Life & Style

Fiesta Resort & Spa’s Hibiscus Hall was crowded with community members Monday night to commemorate the 2011 Buddha Birthday Festival organized by the Chinese Association of Saipan and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

Buddha’s birthday celebration is usually held on the eighth day of the fourth month in the Chinese Lunar Calendar. The occasion is marked with prayers and contemplation.

“We arranged this festival celebrating the birth of Buddha for the CNMI to pray for world peace,” Rose Chan of the Chinese Association of Saipan told

Buddha’s birthday marked with prayers for world peace

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Tribune.

Some 18 members of the Fo Guang Shan Guam and Taiwan as well as the Guam Chapter of Buddha’s Light International Association, a faith-based organization of monastic and lay Buddhists, flew to Saipan to participate in the festivities.

Monday’s ceremony began with the offering of incense for a peaceful and calm mind; flower, to joyfully accept the truth; light, for perfect wisdom and

smooth career path; fruit, to attain happiness and enlightenment; and food for longevity and eloquence.

After the offering, Venerable Master Hsing Yun chanted the sutra and led the prayer for world peace and for the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan.

The celebration culminated with the Bathing of the Buddha, a practice inherited since the Buddha times. Guests poured water on the small Buddha structure to eliminate evil thoughts, cultivate good deeds, and help save all living beings.

The Dun Huang Dynamic Zen Dance Troupe and the Pacific Flowers provided entertainment throughout the program.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Venerable Master Hsing Yun leads the audience in prayer for world peace and for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami destruction in Japan.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Businessmen Ta Bun Kuy and Hideaki Sawada offer lighted candles for a smooth career path and perfect wisdom.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Young members of the Pacific Flowers group perform a dance number.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The Dun Huang Dynamic Zen Dance Troupe entertains the crowd with a cultural performance.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Chinese performers use bandolins during their presentation.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Two members of the Dun Huang Dynamic Zen Dance Troupe present the flower dance.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Chinese dancers are seen performing the flag dance.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Rose Chan, left, of the Chinese Association of Saipan assists Nenita Ta and Riza Cano in the Bathing of the Buddha ceremony.

Trump for president? You're out, he tells himself

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump to self: You're fired.

Out of the presidential race before he was officially in it, the celebrity real estate mogul announced Monday he would not seek the 2012 Republican nomination. He could have won the White House, he said, but instead will continue to steer his business empire and remain host of his reality show "Celebrity Apprentice."

The announcement, ending a colorful and attention-grabbing chapter in the unfolding GOP nominating race, surprised some strategists who said Trump had been assembling a campaign team and had been expected to announce his candidacy soon. This spring, Trump had gained considerable attention by stirring renewed controversy over

President Barack Obama's Hawaii birth, leading the White House to persuade the state to release a copy of Obama's long-form birth certificate after two years of dismissing the issue.

Trump revealed his decision Monday at a meeting of advertising executives who had come to learn about NBC's fall television lineup. The network had been pressing him for a decision, fearing the loss of millions of dollars in ad revenue if "Celebrity Apprentice" didn't return next year.

"I will not be running for president as much as I'd like to," Trump said to cheers from the audience.

His office also released a formal statement, in which Trump said he felt confident he could have won both the Republican nomination and a general elec-



Trump

tion showdown with Obama.

"Ultimately, however, business is my greatest passion and I am not ready to leave the private sector," Trump said.

The Republican race lacks a clear front-runner.

Among the top hopefuls are former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, former House

Speaker Newt Gingrich of Georgia and former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty. The GOP is still waiting to hear whether Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, 2008 vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin or Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann will get in the race. Mike Huckabee, the former Arkansas governor and 2008 presidential contender, announced Saturday he would not be a candidate this time.

While Trump's consideration of a run was dismissed as a stunt some Republican pundits and lawmakers, several polls showed him at or near the top of the field both nationally and in early voting states. John McLaughlin, a pollster who would have served as the campaign's senior strategist, said he met with Trump last Thursday to finalize plans for a May 25 an-

nouncement, three days after the "Celebrity Apprentice" finale.

"There was a path for him to win. If he got in and showed he was serious, his vote would have doubled and tripled again," McLaughlin said. "His message had resonance because he was the most anti-Obama candidate or potential candidate of the bunch."

However, not all the interest he stirred was positive: In a recent Associated Press-GfK poll, he was the only potential GOP candidate to receive a 50 percent unfavorable rating by Republicans.

Trump floated the idea of a presidential candidacy in both 1988 and 2000 but claimed he was more serious than ever this time, citing the weak economy and deploring what he suggested was a nation in decline. In interviews and on campaign visits to early voting states such as New Hampshire and Nevada, Trump lashed out at China for unfair trade practices and blasted the OPEC oil cartel, which he blamed for the high cost of gasoline.

"The world is treating us without respect, they are not treating us properly," Trump told attendees in a well-received speech at the Conservative Political Action Committee meeting in Washington in February—a theme he would return to repeatedly.

With his flashy New York lifestyle and multiple marriages—his current wife, Melania, is a supermodel 23 years his junior—Trump might have been hard-pressed to convince conservative GOP primary voters he was one of them. But his supporters insisted that in

a turbulent economy, voters are looking for a strong manager and business leader as president.

Trump got fresh attention this year for reigniting the "birther" controversy, insisting there were unanswered questions about whether Obama had been born in Hawaii. Trump won admiration from many on the right who have insisted Obama was born overseas and thus ineligible to serve as president.

Despite years of ignoring such claims, Obama finally pressed the state of Hawaii to release his long-form birth certificate last month—an acknowledgement that Trump had succeeded in bringing into the mainstream what had once been a fringe controversy.

At a brief appearance before reporters after the birth certificate was made public, Obama indirectly cast Trump as a carnival barker and the controversy as a sideshow. Trump took credit for the release even though it robbed his fledgling candidacy of a signature issue.

Obama retaliated days later in his monologue at the White House Correspondents Association dinner, where he poked fun at the birth certificate matter while mocking Trump and his show as the TV host watched from the audience.

"Just recently, in an episode of 'Celebrity Apprentice' at the steakhouse, the men's cooking team did not impress the judges from Omaha Steaks," Obama said as Trump sat stone-faced in the same room.

Hines Ward is perfect at 'Dancing' semis

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Super Bowl MVP Hines Ward was perfect during the "Dancing With the Stars" semifinals, but actress Chelsea Kane boosted her score with bonus points.

Kane and professional partner Mark Ballas topped the judges' leaderboard on the hit ABC show Monday with 73 points after winning the show's first "winner-take-all cha-cha."

The victory added 15 points to the 58 the couple earned for the two other dances they performed: an Argentine tango that judges called clean and precise, and a flawless rumba that collected a perfect score of 30.

Ward and partner Kym Johnson earned a perfect 60 points for their spunky salsa and emotional Argentine tango, which Johnson performed despite suffering a neck injury during rehearsals on Friday. The couple was attempting a tricky lift when Johnson fell on her neck and Ward fell on top of her. Paramedics responded and Johnson was taken to the hospital, but she later posted on Twitter that she was "a little shaken up, sore but I will be fine."

The dancer, the football star and judge Carrie Ann Inaba were moved to tears by their tango Monday.

"Praise to God that she's still walking," Ward said after

the performance.

"It could have been really bad," Johnson said. "I feel so blessed and lucky to be OK. I didn't really want to dance tonight."

Kirstie Alley landed in third place with 54 points out of 60. She and partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy collected 27 points each for their Viennese waltz and a paso doble that inspired Inaba to deem the actress "the queen" of the dramatic Latin dance.

Ralph Macchio and partner Karina Smirnoff finished last with 48 points. They earned 25 points for their Argentine tango, which judge Len Goodman criticized for lacking emotion.

"It didn't really smolder," he said.

The couple's 1970s-themed salsa—during which the "Karate Kid" star wore "booty pads" to improve his rump-shaking—also failed to wow the judges. It was the night's lowest-scored dance with 23 points.

One contestant will be ousted during Tuesday's results show. Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine which celebrity is eliminated from the competition each week.

The three remaining celebrity dancers will compete for the cheesy-but-coveted mirrorball trophy during the show's season finale next week.

In Loving Memory of †Nicolasa Reyes Quitugua

November 01, 1946 - May 10, 2011

In Her New Life, she now joins her:

Parents: Nicholas Blas and Ignacia Agulto Reyes

Parent In-Laws: Antonio R. and Maria O. Quitugua

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Husband: Daniel Ogo Quitugua

Children and Grandchildren:

Agnes Q. and Albert Taitano (Jovano, Marco and Daniel)

Patrick R. and Cristina Quitugua (Micah, Elijah, Isaiah, Johnny, Jonathan, Demetri, Brigeda and Patrick Anthony Jr.)

Daniel Jr. and Imelda Quitugua (Drake, Kaileah Junelle, Jacob and Noah)

Jeffrey Quitugua and Lianna Peters (Anthony Jeremiah, Darien Jeffrey and Jeffrey Jr.)

Rodney Quitugua and Pamela Torres (Leonard, Patrick, Dylan Jay, Tyler and Rodney Jr.)

Rollen Quitugua (Damien Quitugua)

Brothers and Sisters:

Emerinciana R. and †Jesus Sonoda

Jose A. and Darlene Duenas [†Francisca Reyes]

Antonio A. and Ramona Reyes

Nicholas A. and Teresita Reyes

Jesus A. and Eloisa Reyes

Dolores R. and Dennis Drew

Gilbert A. and Teresita Reyes

Margarita R. and Roque Bermudes

Francisco A. and Joyce Reyes

Roman A. and Remedio Reyes

Thomas A. Reyes

Brother In-Law and Sisters In-Law and Spouses:

Joaquin O. Quitugua (Deceased)

Anuncia Quitugua; (Austin TX)

Rosa O. Quitugua (Deceased)

Teresita Q. Morris & Scott Wire; (Colorado)

Rose Q. & Randy Cunliffe; (Guam)

Maria O. Quitugua (Deceased)

Victoria Q. & Gerald Calvo; (Virginia)

Antonio & Diane Quitugua; (Rota)

Ana Q. & Rodney Klinge; (Philippines)

Rosita Q. & Rudy Matanane; (Guam)

Bennette Q. & Michael Mosley; (South Carolina)

She will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, relatives and friends.

Mass of Intention and Holy Rosary is being celebrated at six o'clock in the evening at San Vicente Church.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2011. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 7:30am. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am and Interment Service will be at Mt. Carmel Cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Si Yuus Maase - Thank You

*Please Join Us In Prayers,
Daniel Ogo Quitugua, Children,
Brothers and Sisters and Family*

Fox cuts down 'Wanted,' but John Walsh isn't done

NEW YORK (AP)—You didn't have to watch "America's Most Wanted" to be grateful it's there. For 23 years it has resided on Fox, rallying its audience into a nationwide crime watch from which everyone benefited.

The viewership was not insignificant: 5 million viewers, on average, this season.

But other numbers were more impressive. Like the 1,151-and-counting worldwide captures it claimed, a public blessing for which the show, and the community it roused, could take proud credit.

No wonder if the public was shaken by the news on Mon-

day that Fox has canceled "AMW."

Too expensive, Fox entertainment Kevin Reilly explained when making the announcement. Instead of "AMW," Fox will air weekly repeats of its prime-time entertainment series. He said there would be just four, two-hour "AMW" specials next season.

John Walsh had gotten the bad news on Sunday.

Walsh, of course, is the host of "AMW" and its driving force, a man who led a crime-busting crusade in the aftermath of the abduction and murder of his 6-year-old son Adam in 1981.

"I was quite surprised," he said

by phone Monday afternoon from backstage at the Fox's presentation for advertisers in Manhattan. He said he told Reilly. "We performed hard for you and we had a good year. We caught more guys than we've ever caught."

But that wasn't the metric that mattered to the network.

Set aside for a moment the public good "AMW" has provided. It's also been a remarkable TV institution. It premiered in April 1988 on the fledgling Fox network during a season when other freshman Fox shows included such long-forgotten fare as "The New Adventures of Beans Baxter" and "Second

Chance."

It was billed as "a weekly nationwide criminal manhunt." Walsh, a former hotel executive with no TV experience, was its host, with a simple message for the law-abiding public that he deputized to help flush out the bad guys: It's us or them.

"AMW" caught on, where most of Fox's lineup failed. (In July 1989, it became the first-ever Fox program to rank first in its time slot.)

It's been a fixture on the network ever since, and, since 1994, planted at 9 p.m. Eastern on Saturdays. Oh, except for a couple of months in 1996 after Fox canceled it the first time.

"The public went bananas," Walsh recalled. So did government and police officials, who regarded the show as an invaluable law-enforcement resource. The network swiftly reconsidered, and "AMW" carried on with its good work.

"It's a show that seems like it was always there," said Brad Adgate, an analyst for the firm Horizon Media. And innovative: "It harnessed the wisdom of crowds long before social media."

'Spider-Man' musical posts respectable numbers

NEW YORK (AP)—The retooled "Spider-Man" musical is still managing to spin its web at the box office.

According to data released Monday by The Broadway League, "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" pulled in a very respectable \$809,000 over five preview performances last week and was at 95 percent capacity.

The show restarted Thursday after a three-week hiatus following the firing of Julie Taymor as director and with rejiggered music and a smoothed-out script. The average paid admission was \$88.52.

The show, with songs by U2's Bono and The Edge, managed to beat many other musicals, including "Mamma Mia!" "Rock of Ages," "The Addams Family," "Catch Me If You Can," "Chicago," "Baby It's You!" and "Anything Goes."

Opening night is set for June 14.

Invitation to lingerie party brings blush to hesitant guest

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I'm a senior in high school and about to graduate. The week after graduation, one of my close friends is getting married. I have no qualms about the marriage, but I'm confused about the pre-wedding parties.

The bride and groom are registered at three stores and have had a Tupperware party already. However, I have received an invitation to a lingerie party to which guests have been instructed to bring the bride lingerie with gift receipts attached.

Am I wrong in thinking that buying intimate apparel is the responsibility of the couple? I plan to buy them a wedding gift from the registry, but I feel odd being asked to essentially contribute to their sex life. Abby, if I decline the invitation, what would be the proper way to do it?

BRINGING A BLENDER IN MONTANA

DEAR B.A.B.: If you are unable to attend the shower, all you need to say is you're unavailable on that date. You do not have to give a reason. However, lingerie showers can be a fun way for women to bond with each other. I once attended one at which a guest jokingly brought the bride a pair of handcuffs. (In Montana, a set of spurs might make an interesting gag gift.)

However, if you prefer not to "contribute to the couple's sex life," why not bring a high-necked flannel nightgown? Your gift could be the talk of the party.

Readers, care to offer any other gift suggestions?

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I represent Operation Paperback: Recycled Reading for the Troops. Our 10,000 volunteers, at their own expense, collect gently used paperback books and send them to military members and organizations deployed all over the world.

Since 1999, we have sent over a million books and have received thanks from Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Korea, Germany, ships at sea, and dozens of places on the globe where our military serves.

Because units are continually being deployed, reassigned and recalled, we struggle to maintain current address lists. We would appreciate the assistance of your forum in spreading the word to service members and their families that they need only to go to operationpaperback.org to register, and we will see to it that they have quality reading material to provide an escape from their day-to-day trials. Thank you for your help.

DAN BOWERS, RED LION, PA.

DEAR DAN: What a wonderful offer. But be careful what you wish for, because Dear Abby readers are the most generous and patriotic people in the world!

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My stepdaughter came and cleaned our house when my wife—her mother—was ill. I appreciated her efforts, until I noticed she had put the toilet brush in the dishwasher with the dishes. I quietly removed it.

Am I overreacting because I no longer want to eat at her house? This made me extremely uncomfortable because most of our family gatherings are at her house.

TURNED OFF IN TEXAS

DEAR TURNED OFF: Ew! Had I been in your position, when I saw what she had done, I'd have hit high C. And I wouldn't have been subtle about removing the toilet brush from the dishwasher. What a gross lapse of judgment. I wouldn't want to eat at her house either, and I'd let my spouse know exactly why. (Please tell me your stepdaughter didn't learn this from her mother.)

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Denzel Washington receives honorary Penn degree

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Denzel Washington confessed to a bit of stage fright in his latest role: Commencement speaker at the University of Pennsylvania.

Addressing about 5,000 graduates at the Ivy League school in Philadelphia on Monday, the Oscar- and Tony-winning actor said the academic ceremony was "a little overwhelming and out of my comfort zone."

And that was his reason for accepting the invitation to speak, he said.

"I had to come exactly because I might make a fool of myself," said Washington. "I've found that nothing in life is worthwhile unless you take risks. Nothing."

The 56-year-old star of "Malcolm X" and "Philadelphia" delivered a humorous speech with a sobering truth: Failure is inevitable. Yet instead of having something to fall back on,



AP
Actor Denzel Washington is seen at the University of Pennsylvania's 255th Commencement Monday, May 16, 2011, in Philadelphia.

he said, graduates should "fall forward"—learn from their mistakes and keep going.

Thomas Edison had countless failed experiments before succeeding with the light bulb, he said.

"Do you have the guts to fail?" Washington said. "If you don't

fail, you're not even trying."

One of his earliest failures was as a pre-med student at Fordham University in New York, he said. He changed to pre-law, then journalism, and was close to flunking out before switching to drama and getting his degree.

Jerry Lewis retiring from MDA telethon in Sept.

LAS VEGAS (AP)—After 45 years promoting treatment and a cure for children he calls "my kids," comedian Jerry Lewis announced Monday he is retiring as host of the Labor Day Muscular Dystrophy Association telethon that has become synonymous with his name.

Lewis, 85, issued a statement through the association calling it "time for an all new Telethon era."

"As a labor of love, I've hosted the annual Telethon since 1966 and I'll be making my final appearance on the show this year by performing my signature song, 'You'll Never Walk



Lewis

Las Vegas resident, has in recent years battled a debilitating back condition, heart issues and the crippling lung disease pulmonary fibrosis. He said he'll continue serving as national Muscular Dystrophy Association chairman, as he's done since the early 1950s.

"I'll never desert MDA and

Alone," Lewis said of a shortened six-hour primetime broadcast scheduled for Sept. 4.

Lewis, a Las Vegas resident, has in recent years battled a debilitating back condition, heart issues and the crippling lung disease pulmonary fibrosis. He said he'll continue serving as national Muscular Dystrophy Association chairman, as he's done since the early 1950s.

"I'll never desert MDA and

my kids," he said.

Officials with the Tucson, Ariz.-based nonprofit hailed Lewis as one of the world's great humanitarians.

More than \$1 billion has been raised during Muscular Dystrophy Association telethons over the years, association spokesman Jim Brown said. And a national network of some 200 hospital-affiliated clinics has opened since Lewis became involved in the telethon.

Lewis' first live Labor Day weekend telethon in 1966 was broadcast by a single New York City television station. It raised more than \$1 million in pledges.

year-old Lake has starred in such films as "Cry-Baby" with Johnny Depp and the original "Hairspray." She also hosted her own talk show from 1993-2004. She has spoken often about personal issues, including her weight problems and past sexual abuse.

Stroman wins Astaire Award for 'Scottsboro Boys'

NEW YORK (AP)—Susan Stroman has taken home the Astaire Award for best Broadway choreography for her work on

"The Scottsboro Boys." It was Stroman's fifth Fred & Adele Astaire Award, which recognize excellence in dance on Broadway and in film. She beat out eight other choreographers Sunday for the prize. Sutton Foster of "Anything Goes," won her second Astaire Award for best female dancer on Broadway. "Catch Me if You Can" star Norbert Leo Butz took home the prize for best male dancer. Graeme Murphy and Janet Vernon won the Astaire for Excellence in Choreography in Film Award for their breathtaking dances in "Mao's Last Dancer."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Memoir by talk show host Ricki Lake coming in 2012

NEW YORK (AP)—After a career of telling all, Ricki Lake is ready to write her story down. The actress and talk show host has signed with Atria Books for a memoir scheduled to come out in spring 2012. Her new talk show is expected to launch later in the fall of 2012. Atria, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, says the book will be "a raw and emotional ride through the glum and the glamour." The book does not yet have a title. The 42-

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

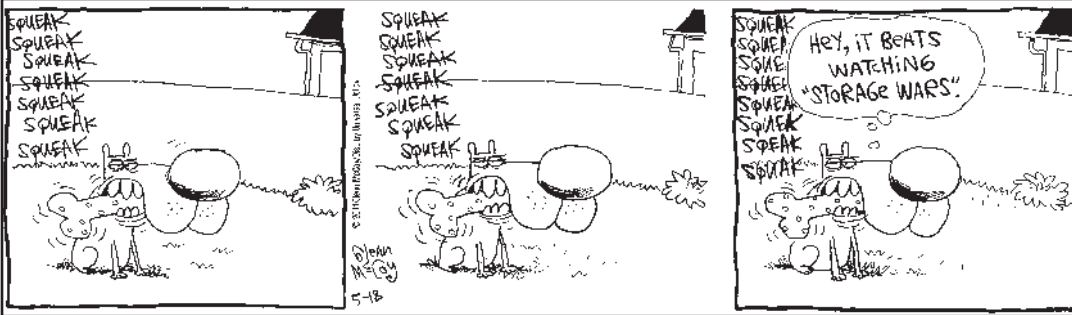
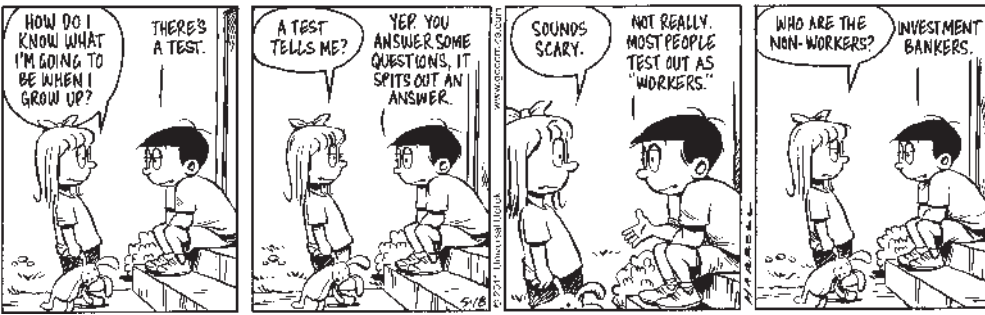
Garfield® By Jim Davis



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By Bryan Basset

The Duplex By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Mama — Elliot 5 Past rhyme note 8 Resistance measures 12 St. Louis landmark 13 Pea holder 14 Bound 15 What Archie Bunker called his son-in-law 17 Information 18 Veranda 19 Small burger 21 Penny 24 Common Mkt. 25 Prepare for a trip 28 Table scraps 30 Sphere 33 Altar affirmative 34 Welcome 35 Costello or Ferrigno 36 Chum 37 Portent 38 Tosses in

39 Margery of nursery 41 Wield a teaspoon 43 Topical antiseptic 46 Dance under a bar 50 Cowboy boot attachment 51 Marx Brothers classic 54 Chantilly, for one 55 Greek vowel 56 Formerly, formerly 57 BPOE members

58 Fresh 59 Collections 20 For fear that 22 Standard 23 Kilmer poem 25 Spot on a domino 26 Oklahoma city 27 Burgundy-champagne blend 29 Scout's shelter 31 Scepter 32 Clear the tables 34 Prom garb 38 Obeys reveille 40 Buenos — 42 Sort 43 Capri, for one 44 October birthstone 45 Paradise 47 Oliver Twist's request 48 Pedestal topper 49 Chooses 52 Multi-purpose truck 53 Cornfield cry

Solution time: 21 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 5-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tina Fey, 41; Chow Yun-Fat, 56; George Strait, 59; Reggie Jackson, 65

Happy Birthday: A change of heart, a change of plans and a change in lifestyle are ahead of you if you don't protect what you have. Things always look better from a distance but don't be fooled into thinking that you are not doing as well as others. Focus on your own goals instead of trying to outdo the competition. Your numbers are 5, 9, 18, 21, 29, 33, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A financial change, reorganizing your personal budget or investing in long-term assets should be considered. Update your technological knowledge and your attitude to set yourself on a positive path. Don't be afraid to speak your mind. *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Keep things to yourself until you are positive that sharing the information you have is not going to jeopardize the outcome. A money matter based on an emotional relationship has the potential to be settled if you are willing to make a couple of concessions. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your unpredictable nature will cause confusion for some. However, those who think like you will pitch in and help. A concerted effort will bring you the results you are looking for. Make sure you thank those who helped you out. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): If you are a participant, you will meet people who can be an asset when it comes to changing jobs or finding employment. Contacting people you have worked with in the past will lead to interesting opportunities. Uncertainty at home and in your

personal life must be dealt with quickly. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may not agree with everyone you deal with, but at least hear what's being said before you make a judgment. Enjoy the company of older, more experienced individuals. A creative way to budget or handle your money will be revealed. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't worry too much about someone who is criticizing your every move. Taking a different approach to the way you do something will show your enthusiasm and ability to adapt. Love is in the stars. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be able to come to terms with a lot of the personal issues you've been facing. You can make changes conducive to the lifestyle that suits your needs. You are closer to reaching your dreams than you think. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You have more going for you than you give yourself credit for. Put your plans, your knowledge and your skills to the test. Love is highlighted, so don't ignore someone who needs a little tender loving care. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't get overly emotional about the little things said or done when what really counts is what you do and how you react. Opportunities can bring about favorable changes at home and at work if you play your cards right. Good fortune is within reach. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Hidden assets and opportunities through agencies, large corporations or financial

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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institutions will develop but don't go overboard. Moderation and common sense will be required. Family dynamics are improving. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't trust anyone who promises the impossible or who has let you down in the past. Someone is likely to entice you but now is not the time to make a move that can disrupt your personal life. Emotional deception is apparent. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional signals will not be easy to decipher and can cause you to misinterpret what someone wants. Ulterior motives are apparent, so be careful how you handle anyone who is being too generous or accommodating. **

Birthday Baby: You are curious and unpredictable. You are expressive and creative and take on competition with great courage.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

						7	8			
						7	4	2	5	
					1	5	3		9	
				9	8			1	4	7
			7	1						
3	4	1								
4		9	3							
1				7						
8	5	6	2							

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Tuesday's SUDOKU Answer

9	2	7	5	8	4	6	1	3
4	8	6	3	2	1	5	9	7
5	3	1	6	9	7	4	2	8
7	5	2	4	3	9	8	6	1
8	9	4	1	5	6	7	3	2
6	1	3	2	7	8	9	5	4
3	4	9	8	1	5	2	7	6
2	7	8	9	6	3	1	4	5
1	6	5	7	4	2	3	8	9

Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORDS. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SMOOTHIES Solution: 9 letters

F L A V O R K S P O P A D O S
E G S E R V E A E A S T E R N
R R L G U E T A L P M E T C S
M E S E P I C E R E F O A E T
E E G T T Y F A E L R R R N E
N N L A N T R P E R O S E T K
T E F B R A U R A B Z E G H R
A R R L I E D C E F E L I U A
T G N E A D V I E B N P R S M
I I O S L X E E X F W P F I R
O Z G D E W E R B O R A E A E
N I A E E F F O C I U R S P
O N R E F R E S H O R T I T U
D G D S S U P P L E M E N T S
E S U O H T L O B A N A N A S

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Yesterday's Answer: Voluminous

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P.O. Box 502045
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 285-9778

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For: **FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0002**

S.M.H. Minor Child **NOTICE OF HEARING**

By: **Marilyn Dejumo Manalo,** Petitioner

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on **May 26, 2011**, at **10:00 a.m.** in Courtroom 217A, before Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

Dated this 16 day of May, 2011

BERNADITA SABLAN
Clerk of Court

/s/By:Deputy Clerk of Court



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TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION, Plaintiff,
-v-
WILLIAM TAITANO, Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 00-0195
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on April 27, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Agricultural Homestead Lot No. 646 R 22, situated in Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 646 R 01 dated June 28,1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-2227.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 03, 2011, at the hour of 1:45 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 11th day of May, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

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Indians destroy Royals, 19-1



KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP)—

The Cleveland Indians piled on 10 runs in the fourth inning on their way to a 19-1 rout of the Kansas City Royals in the American League on Monday.

Michael Brantley's three-run homer and Travis Hafner's bases-loaded double keyed the huge inning. Brantley and Matt LaPorta each had four RBIs as the Indians racked up their biggest score for two years. LaPorta reached base five times with a walk and four hits.

Vin Mazzaro, the third Royals' pitcher, gave up a staggering 14 runs in 2 1-3 innings. After giving up 10 runs, all earned, in the fourth, Mazzaro allowed four more in the fifth before he was removed.

Kansas City starter Kyle Davies (1-6) left after walking the bases full in the first inning and retiring only one batter.

Cleveland starter Josh Tomlin (5-1) went six innings, allowing one run.

Rays 6, Yankees 5

In St. Petersburg, Sam Fuld and B.J. Upton hit two-run homers as Tampa Bay handed New York its sixth consecutive loss.

It's the first time in four years the Yankees have lost this many consecutive games.

New York starter A.J. Burnett had a four-run advantage before imploding in the sixth. After Fuld homered and Matt Joyce drove in a run with a single, Upton ended Burnett's night with his two-run drive that put Tampa Bay up 6-5. Burnett (4-3) allowed six runs over 5 2-3 innings.

Rays reliever Juan Cruz (2-0) pitched a scoreless sixth for the win. Kyle Farnsworth got the final three outs for his eighth save.

Blue Jays 4, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Toronto snapped Detroit's seven-game winning streak.

Kyle Drabek (2-3) pitched seven strong innings, allowing one run. Frank Francisco pitched the ninth for his fourth save.

Toronto won the game with three runs off Joaquin Benoit (1-3) in the eighth. Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion started the inning with singles, and Aaron Hill made it 2-1 with a double.

Juan Rivera and J.P. Arencibia followed with sacrifice flies to give the Blue Jays a three-run lead.

Athletics 5, Angels, 10 innings

In Oakland, Kurt Suzuki scored from third base in the 10th inning on a fielder's choice groundball to give Oakland a narrow win over Los Angeles.

Suzuki drew a one-out walk off Los Angeles reliever Fernando Rodney (2-2), moved to second on another walk then took third on a wild pitch.

Angels left fielder Howie Kendrick was moved in to play in the infield. Mark Ellis hit a sharp grounder to Kendrick near second base. Kendrick tried to throw home but the ball sailed high as Suzuki slid across the plate.

Athletics reliever Grant Balfour (3-1) pitched one inning with three strikeouts for the win.

The A's blew a 3-0 lead then tied the game with one run in the ninth.



Cleveland Indians center fielder Michael Brantley, left, and right fielder Shin-Soo Choo react after defeating the Kansas City Royals, 7-3, in a major league baseball game Monday, April 18, 2011, in Kansas City, Mo.

Red Sox 8, Orioles 7

In Boston, Adrian Gonzalez hit a two-run double in the ninth inning to lift Boston over Baltimore.

Trailing 7-6 going into the inning, the Red Sox put runners at first and second on one-out walks to Jacoby Ellsbury and Dustin Pedroia. Gonzalez, the AL leader with 37 RBIs, then got the winning hit on the first pitch he saw from Kevin Gregg (0-1).

Alfredo Aceves (1-0) got the win, allowing one run in three innings.

Boston went over .500 for the first time this season with its fourth straight win.

Rangers 4, White Sox 0

In Chicago, Colby Lewis pitched his first career shutout to steer Texas past Chicago.

Lewis (4-4) struck out seven in his third career complete game. It was also his fourth consecutive start of at least 7 1-3 innings, improving to 3-1 with a 1.67 ERA during that sequence.

Endy Chavez had three hits for the Rangers. He had been hitless in nine at-bats since he was promoted from the minors.

White Sox starter Edwin Jackson (3-5) left with one out in the sixth as Chicago suffered its 10th loss in its past 11 home games.

Mariners 5, Twins 2

In Seattle, the hosts ended a six-game losing skid by defeating struggling Minnesota.

The Twins have lost nine straight for the first time since 1998, and fell 15 games below .500 for the first time in 11 years.

Mariners starter Michael Pineda (5-2), the American League's Rookie of the Month for April, struck out seven and walked none as he lowered his ERA to 2.45. He went to a three-ball count on just two of the 26 batters he faced.

Adam Kennedy and Carlos Peguero hit consecutive home runs in the sixth inning; the first time Seattle had done that this season.

Twins starter Scott Baker (2-3) went six innings, allowing four runs.

Cardinals 3, Phillies 1

In St. Louis, the St. Louis Cardinals marked the return of manager Tony La Russa from illness, beating the Philadelphia Phillies and an errant Cliff Lee.

Lee (2-4) issued a career-worst six walks and is now winless in six starts. He departed after a marathon 122 pitches in 6 1-3 innings.

The Phillies got only three runners into scoring position against Cardinals starter Jake Westbrook (3-3), who allowed just one run in seven innings.

Fernando Salas worked the ninth for his fourth save in four chances.

The 66-year-old La Russa was back on the job after missing a six-game trip while getting treated for shingles.

Marlins 2, Mets 1, 11 innings

In New York, Florida pitcher Burke Badenhop got just his second career hit to drive in the winning run with two outs in the 11th inning, as Florida edged New York.

Badenhop (1-0) came to bat after escaping a two-on, two-out jam when he was pitching in the bottom of the tenth. With runners on first and second, Badenhop lined a single up the middle off Ryota Igarashi (2-1) for his first hit since 2008, and his second career RBI.

Leo Nunez pitched the bottom half of the 11th for his 15th save, despite allowing a two-out triple to pitcher Jonathon Niese—pinch-hitting because the Mets were out of position players.

Rockies 7, Giants 4

In Denver, Carlos Gonzalez capped a five-run sixth-inning with a three-run homer to power Colorado over

San Francisco.

Seth Smith also homered off the uncharacteristically wild Giants starter Tim Lincecum (3-4), who set up the Rockies' big inning with a throwing error on a potential double-play that led to four unearned runs.

Lincecum allowed seven runs and walked six in 5 2-3 innings.

The Rockies turned four double plays.

Reds 7, Cubs 4

In Cincinnati, Jonny Gomes hit his first homer in nearly a month, completing Cincinnati's seven-run rally that defeated Chicago.

The big inning ended the night for Cubs starter Carlos Zambrano (4-2), who had won his previous 10 starts on the road, matching the second-longest such streak in Cubs history. He held the Reds scoreless for six innings, then fell apart.

The Reds sent 12 batters to the plate, matching their biggest inning this season. Scott Rolen's fly was misfielded and turned into a double that tied the game 4-4. Marcos Mateo let in a run with a wild pitch that nearly hit Gomes, who then hit a two-run shot.

Braves 3, Astros 2

In Atlanta, Eric Hinske had three hits, including a tie-breaking single in the seventh, as Atlanta used a makeshift lineup to beat Houston.

Missing third baseman Chipper Jones and right fielder Jason Heyward, the Braves profited from their replacements: Hinske and Joe Mather, who had a two-run single in the sixth.

Fernando Abad (1-4) walked Nate McLouth and Dan Uggla in the seventh, then Hinske's single drove in McLouth for a 3-2 lead.

Brewers 2, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Shaun Marcum out-pitched Jon Garland to win his fifth straight decision and guide Milwaukee to a tight win over Los Angeles.

Marcum (5-1) allowed one run over seven innings. Since losing on his Brewers debut, he has been unbeaten in eight starts, with a 2.08 ERA.

Garland (1-3) went six innings, allowing seven hits and four walks.

Nationals 4, Pirates 2

In Washington, the hosts extended Pittsburgh's losing skid to a season-worst seven games.

Danny Espinosa broke out of a slump with a two-run homer in the seventh inning, driving the first pitch thrown by reliever Jose Ascanio into the bullpen, scoring Mike Morse, who had singled off hard-luck Pirates starter Paul Maholm (1-6). Espinosa's 22 RBIs leads all rookies.

Jerry Hairston also homered for the Nationals, who won despite having just six hits.

Padres 8, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Ryan Ludwick homered and drove in three runs to help San Diego defeat Arizona.

Cameron Maybin and Jason Bartlett had two RBIs apiece as the Padres roughed up Armando Galarraga (3-4) for five runs in the first two innings, giving their starter Clayton Richard (2-4) plenty of cushion to earn his first win in six weeks.

Steinbrenner says he has no problem with Jeter

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Hank Steinbrenner says he's not upset that team captain Derek Jeter supported Jorge Posada. The New York Yankees co-chairman isn't too happy, however, with how the team is playing.

Posada pulled himself out of the lineup over the weekend, saying he needed a day off, and a public spat ensued between the slumping slugger and club management. Jeter later said he saw nothing wrong with what his pal did.

"I don't have a problem with that," Steinbrenner told The Associated Press on Monday. "They've known each other for a long time."

Steinbrenner said he is miffed the Yankees got swept over the weekend at home by Boston, leaving them with a five-game losing streak.

"It's early, but the team needs to get it together," Steinbrenner said. "We've got too much talent to be swept by anybody at Yankee Stadium, even if we're playing the '27 Yankees. It's not acceptable. We need to start doing what I know we can do."

Posada has since apologized to the Yankees. The team held a conference call Monday with Jeter, team president Randy Levine, general manager Brian Cashman and managing general partner Hal Steinbrenner.

"We're all on the same page," Jeter said, without getting into specifics. "Everything is good. It's a non-issue. That's all I got."

Yankees spokesman Jason Zillo, on behalf of the team, said "a great conversion" took place. He added that the team would have no additional comment.

Posada was not in the lineup Monday for the series opener at Tampa Bay. Tough lefty David Price started for the AL East-leading Rays, and the switch-hitting Posada doesn't have a hit against a left-hander this season.

Alex Rodriguez was the designated hitter, Posada's spot for most of the season.

"When you're hitting (.165), you're lucky to be in the lineup," Hank Steinbrenner said of Posada. "He'll comeback, I'll guarantee that."

Manager Joe Girardi won't say if Posada will be the DH on Tuesday night when Tampa Bay starts right-hander James Shields.

"We're worry about tomorrow, tomorrow," he said.

The Yankees had lost nine of 12 going into the series at Tropicana Field.

"It's been a struggle," Girardi said. "There's a lot of character in that room and that character is going to pull us of this and we'll start playing better."

"We're moving forward," he said. "Our focus is on the field. This might be what pulls this club even closer, and this is a close-knit group of guys. This is a great group of guys and we'll get this righted."

In East finals, Luol vs LeBron a key matchup



DEERFIELD, ILL.

(AP)—The Chicago Bulls saw it all year from Luol Deng, so what he did against LeBron James and the Miami Heat in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals hardly shocked them.

Hit big shots? Limit the game's most talented player? Check, check and huge check.

The Bulls lead the Heat 1-0 after a 103-82 victory on Sunday, and a big reason for that is Deng. All he did was score 21 points, grab seven rebounds and contribute four steals while neutralizing James in an all-around performance that helped lift Chicago to an impressive victory.

Yes, Derrick Rose was up to his usual MVP tricks, scoring 28 points, but it was Deng providing a big assist whether he was scoring or clamping down on The King.

"That's Luol Deng," Chicago's Carlos Boozer said. "He's an unsung hero for us. He should have been an All-Star this season. It's a normal game for Lu. He plays most of the other teams' best player—or second-best player, whatever the case may be. He scores for us, hits big shots in the clutch for us, rebounds the ball, is a great leader out there, always inspiring us. Luol needs to get more love."

If he keeps this up, that won't be a problem. Game 2 is Wednesday at the United Center, but the Bulls are certainly not writing off Miami.

"They've lost big games and come out aggressive the next day," Deng said.

It might help if the Heat moved the ball rather than try to beat the Bulls off the dribble, an approach



Miami Heat's LeBron James, left, looks to the basket as Chicago Bulls' Luol Deng defends during the second quarter in Game 1 of the NBA Eastern Conference finals basketball series Sunday, May 15, 2011 in Chicago.

that did not work. They also got hammered on the glass, with Chicago outrebounding them 45-33 and outscoring them 31-8 on second-chance points.

Now, they're in a hole.

"Everybody understands that we are disappointed about last night's game, and we still have an opportunity and sometimes you have to have amnesia going into Game 2," coach Erik Spoelstra said. "You can't just let it go, the next 2 1/2 days we're going to work to fix some of these challenges that we had last night. But we still have to under-

stand Wednesday is a golden opportunity for us. It doesn't matter. Sometimes there are good performances, bad performances in the playoffs. That's really irrelevant, it really just comes down to a win and a loss."

Their chances would certainly be better if James performed like he is capable.

He scored just 15 points on 5-of-15 shooting. Whether it was Deng sticking to him or the big men helping out, he simply had no room to operate and was basically a non-factor in the game.

He looked good enough in

the early going when he blocked Deng's layup in the opening seconds and fed Dwyane Wade for a fastbreak slam.

Then, he picked off a pass by Rose and broke for dunk, and he did all that in the first 40 seconds. He also picked up two fouls in the first quarter and committed two of his four turnovers, with Joakim Noah stripping him and Deng picking off a pass, and he was nowhere to be found in the second half.

In the third quarter, when the Bulls outscored Miami 24-15, James scored just two points

and attempted four shots. At one point, he lost the ball near the Chicago bench and got blocked seconds later trying to go one-on-one against Taj Gibson.

James hit a 3 early in the fourth, but didn't score another point. Deng was a big reason—but not the only reason—he struggled.

He had help from Gibson, Noah and even Omer Asik. The Bulls were quick to rotate and plug any gaps, making it tough for James and Wade to get to the rim.

"(Deng is) very active and long," said James, who averaged

nearly 32 points for Cleveland in the first round against Chicago last year. "I think (coach Tom Thibodeau) has definitely helped him a lot with their defensive schemes. It's not ever one guy that you have to worry about."

"Just put me out with any individual, I feel like I can get around them. When you have a guy that has the backups that they have behind him with Taj Gibson and Noah and guys that are helping him out, also, it definitely helps him a lot. He's very active."

Deng is also a big reason why the Bulls led the league with 62 wins and matched their best record since the 1997-98 championship season.

Hailed as a budding star four years ago when he averaged 18.8 points, he signed a six-year extension that summer, but two injury-riddled seasons left many wondering if he was worth it.

He's been healthy the past two years and is a key piece for Thibodeau on both ends, averaging 17.4 points while often guarding one of the opponent's best players.

Thibodeau, in fact, openly endorsed him for NBA's All-Defensive Team. Deng received votes from the coaches but did not get first or second-team recognition.

"He's always worked at his game consistently," general manager Gar Forman said. "He's always worked on his body. A week ago, we're in Atlanta and it's 7:30 in the morning after we had played the night before. The team wasn't practicing until 10 or 11. I went down to get a workout at like 7:30, he's down there stretching and taking care of himself. He's a pro."

Appeals court backs NFL, lockout remains in place



MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The NFL's lockout remains in place, a federal appeals court ruled Monday. That means the league likely won't get back to business until at least next month—and maybe much longer than that.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the lockout can stay until a full appeal is heard on whether it is legal. That hearing is scheduled for June 3 in St. Louis, before the same panel that issued this 2-1 decision.

The appellate court said it believes the NFL has proven it "likely will suffer some degree of irreparable harm without a stay." The court also cast doubt on the conclusions of U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson, who ruled April 25 that the lockout should be lifted to save the players from irreversible damage. The 8th Circuit panel put her decision on hold four days later.

"The league has made a strong showing that it is likely to succeed on the merits," the appellate court majority wrote.

The decision came as NFL owners and players finished their latest round of court-ordered mediation behind closed doors, a session that lasted more than eight hours. This was the fifth day of talks in front of U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan, the first since April 20.

Neither side would elaborate on the discussions, citing the judge's confidentiality order, but they said they planned to resume talks on Tuesday morning. Michael Hausfeld, an attorney for

the retired players who joined the antitrust lawsuit against the league, said the players were reviewing a new proposal from the owners.

"It probably is not one that would be acceptable as is, but it clearly opens a dialogue," Hausfeld said.

Beyond that, both sides stuck to their message.

The owners want to stay out of court, blaming the players for preferring litigation. The players claim they're only interested in playing and that the owners are preventing them and fans from enjoying the game.

"We have an opportunity to resolve this matter and get the game back on the field, and that really should be our exclusive focus," NFL lead negotiator Jeff Pash said.

DeMaurice Smith, the head of the NFL Players Association, said the players have prepared for a lockout for two years, suggesting they're not ready to relent in light of Monday's unfavorable ruling.

"Right now our guys are out there working out for free, because they dig the game," Smith said.

Commissioner Roger Goodell, speaking to Buffalo Bills season ticket holders on a conference call, said he thinks there's "still time" to strike a new collective bargaining agreement.

"But time is running short. It's time to get back to the table and get those issues resolved," Goodell said.

NFLPA president Kevin Mawae told The Associated Press he was disappointed with the 8th Circuit's decision.

"The ruling in granting the stay of the injunction means that the NFL owners can continue to not let football be played," he said.

The appellate court said it would make its decision quickly, a "circumstance that should minimize harm to the players during the offseason and allow the case to be resolved well before the scheduled beginning of the 2011 season."

Indeed, with training camps just two months away and the first preseason game set for Aug. 8, there is restlessness around the league to go with all the uncertainty.

"We'd like to make progress, but it'll be hard to do. We have to wait to see what happens June 3," Pittsburgh Steelers president Art Rooney II said earlier on his way into the federal courthouse for Monday's mediation.

The 8th Circuit's decision to keep the lockout in place could be a signal of how the two sides will fare in the full appeal. The majority opinion, from Judges Steven Colloton and Duane Benton, sided with the NFL. Judge Kermit Bye dissented in favor of the players.

"The district court reasoned that this case does not involve or grow out of a labor dispute because the players no longer are represented by a union," the majority wrote. "We have considerable doubt about this interpretation."

The 8th Circuit has been seen as a more conservative, business-friendly venue for the NFL than the federal courts in Minnesota. Colloton and Benton were both appointed by Republican

President George W. Bush; Bye was appointed by President Clinton, a Democrat.

Bye dismissed the conclusions of his fellow judges, just as he did on April 29 in dissenting against a temporary stay. He didn't buy the NFL's argument that it would be unable to "unscramble the egg"—a reference to the chaos of handling player transactions with no CBA in place.

"The preliminary injunction does not dictate the NFL's free agency rules, or any other conduct in general, outside of the lockout," Bye said.

The majority, however, said both sides will suffer "some degree of irreparable harm no matter how this court resolves the motion for a stay pending appeal," and then criticized Nelson sharply.

"We do not agree, however, with the district court's apparent view that the balance of the equities tilts heavily in favor of the players," the majority wrote. "The district court gave little or no weight to the harm caused to the league by an injunction issued in the midst of an ongoing dispute over terms and conditions of employment."

Still in the courts is a separate but related matter. U.S. District Judge David Doty is determining the fate of some \$4 billion in broadcast revenue he previously ruled was unfairly secured by the NFL in the last round of contract extensions with the networks to use as leverage in the form of lockout insurance. The players have asked Doty to put that money in escrow and for more than \$707 million in damages, too.

The two sides also met for 16 days earlier this year before talks fell apart March 11 and the lockout began. Boylan presided over four days of mediation last month with no signs of progress.

Rollers Madness, Sonics prevail against rivals

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Rollers Madness and Sonics triumphed over separate foes in last Friday's QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Madness downed sister-team Rollers Happiness, 84-78, in the first game, while the Sonics defeated Ferrera Builders, 84-77, in the second game.

Madness managed a slim, 18-17 lead in the first quarter and stretched it to a two-possession advantage lea, 42-38, at the half.

Madness' Ivan Devero and Manny Matagolai combined for 23 markers in the first frame. The duo totaled for 46 points, just three markers shy of Happiness' trio of Luizi Reyes (20), Wensner Namelo (17), and Eli Aughenbaugh (12).

Devero added eight points

in the third to help Madness maintain a 60-53 advantage heading into the final period, and Matagolai chipped in nine more in the fourth to help seal the deal.

Sonics, meanwhile, led by a handful, 17-12, after the opening 10 minutes of the nightcap, but Ferrera Builders' Kae Bernardo caught a string of 11 markers in the second quarter to help his team seize control, 38-33, at the half.

Bernardo added 12 more in the third to help Ferrera Builders to a 55-50 lead heading into the final period, but the Sonics tallied 33 points in the fourth and final quarter for the comeback victory.

The Sonics converted a trio of 3-pointers in the clutch and drew eight points from Tom Santos late in the game. Santos led three Sonics in double digits, while Bernardo exploded for 39 points in the loss.

In related news, league orga-

nizers are planning on holding its QQ Cares All-Star game on June 12 as a fundraising event in support of the new Garapan Youth Basketball Program. A group of U12 players will be featured in an exhibition match during halftime of the QQ Cup championship.

The outreach program aims to address and positively impact important social issues such as education, youth and family development, and better health and wellness.

As to the all-star selections, two players from each team will be picked based on performance and the Top 2 designated tacticians will coach the teams.

In addition, every Friday from now until the season ends, fans at the games will have a chance to nail a half court shot during halftime, good for a free one-day car rental, worth \$40.

Check out the league's Facebook page at QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup for more up-

dates and information.

First Game

Rollers Madness 84 – Devero 25, Matagolai 21, Babauta 13, Hambros 6, Manglona 6, Reyes 5, Camacho 2, Norita 2, Rasa 2.

Rollers Happiness 78 – Reyes 20, Namelo 17, Aughenbaugh 12, Aurelio 11, Cabrera 4, DL Guerrero 4, Brennan 2, Cepeda 2, Cruz 2, Danas 2, Torres 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-17, 42-38, 60-53, 84-78.

Second Game

Sonics 84 – Santos 18, Bahillo 11, Pagarao 11, Galarse 9, Chan 8, Eclevia 8, Hernandez 8, Lizama 5, Ajoste 2, E. Camacho 2, Castro 2.

Ferrera Builders 77 – Bernardo 39, Demapan 14, Abuy 12, Yabut 6, Abuel 4, Miranda 2, David 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-12, 33-38, 50-55, 84-77.

GET

From Page 28

Flores in a previous interview said she is coordinating with lawmakers for the approval and release of funds for SLLBI. *Saipan Tribune* called Flores to

ask for the latest about the funding, but failed to get a respond at press time.

Under House Local Bill 17-33 authored by Rep. Ralph Yumul, \$25,000 is allotted for SLLBI's participation to the district meet. Under the bill, the expenditure authority for the funds is with

the secretary of finance in consultation with SLLBI president or designee. Lawmakers will be having a session tomorrow and is expected to discuss the bill. Once approved and signed by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, the secretary of finance still needs to check on the elected SLLBI

president or the group's designee before the funds can be used for Saipan's participation to the district tournament.

"They are running out of time as the tournament is scheduled next week. I just hope they will sit down and settle this before its too late," Ada said.

DELOS SANTOS

From Page 28

Kyle Kaipat (20-for-31 and 0.645) and Natibu's Elias "Jun" Saralu (19-for-31 and 0.613) in the Top 3.

UR Balls' Oliver Secharmidal (21-for-35 and 0.600) and Giovanni Ayuyu (23-for-39 and 0.590), Calikano-Groupers' Joey Sablan (18-for-31 and 0.581), G-Ballers' Jun Salalila (22-for-38 and 0.579), John Wayne Kintaro (19-for-34 and 0.559), and Jude Dickinson (18-for-33 and 0.545), Natibu's Bruce Norita (21-for-39 and 0.538) and Jerry Guerrero (21-for-39 and 0.538), Salty's J.D. Dikito (17-for-32 and 0.531), Groupers' Navan Falig (19-for-36 and 0.528), Salty's Melvin Aldan (19-for-36 and 0.528) and Red Eye's Jack Sablan (22-for-42 and 0.524) round out the Top 15. Statistics were based on at least 31 at bats.

Salty's Eric Cabrera, meanwhile, has hammered home a league-best 26 RBIs thus far with teammate J.D. Dikito (25), Salalila (24), Phat Boyz's Byron Kaipat (24), Norita (23), Jack Sablan (20), and Dickinson (20) still in the race.

Natibu's J.R. Suel crossed the plate a league-leading 26 times with teammates Nokki Saralu (25) and Jerry Guerrero (23), followed by Ayuyu (21), Dickinson (21), Natibu's Lawrence Dikito (21), Jack Sablan (20), G-Ballers' Lefty Shiro (20), Salalila (19), and Sechar-

midal (19).

V-Power's Fred Sato and Phat Boyz's Glen Camacho lead the field in triples with three apiece, while Man Amigos' Brandon Hocog, Berdax's Jesse Tenorio, Island-Apparel-X-clusive's John Reyes, and Salty's Ota Nobuyuki all sit a triple behind.

Navan Falig's six doubles tops the league so far with Phat Boyz's Marvin Kaipat (5), Roy Celis (5), Berdax's Bill Camacho (4), Man Amigos' Jeff Cabrera (4), X-clusive's J.J. Cabrera (4), Salalila (4), Shiro (4), V-Power's Mel Sakisat (4), Saralu (4), and Secharmidal (4), Salty's Thomas Joab (4), and Natibu's Victor Salas (4) all in the mix.

Notably, out of the Top 15, Bruce Norita belted two grand slams, while Kyle Kaipat, Elias Saralu, Joey Sablan, and J.D. Dikito slammed one apiece.

In pitching, Phat Boyz's Craig Sanchez holds the lowest earned run average allowing 33 earned runs in 53 innings for a 4.36 ERA. Berdax's Jack Guerrero, Man Amigo's Mike Sablan, Groupers' Blas Magofna, Familia's Frank Ermitanio, Jerry Guerrero, UR Ball's Steve Igisair, Groupers' Mike Cruz, Berdax's Tony Magofna, and Gorillaz's Ping Santos round out the Top 10 in ERA.

Red Eye's J.R. Brel leads in strikeouts with 21, with Blas Magofna (17), Igisair, Laolao Bay's Robin Oiph (15), X-clusive's John Cepeda (12), Brad-dahs' Imoa Iguel (10), and Jerry Guerrero (10) are listed as no-

tables. Statistics were based on at least 15 innings pitched.

Pennant champs Natibu (14-0) lead the men's standings followed by Phat Boyz (9-1), Man Amigos (8-3), V-Power (8-3), G-Ballers (7-5), Salty's (7-6), UR Balls (6-5), Berdax (6-6), X-clusive (5-6), Groupers (5-7), Gorillaz (4-7), Familia (3-9), Laolao Bay (2-11), and Brad-dahs (1-10).

In the women's field, Babauta leads in batting with 14 hits in 23 at bats for a 0.609 average. Teammates Liz Lebria (15-for-25 and 0.600), Bert Camacho (14-for-24 and 0.583), and Popo Tudela (14-for-24 and 0.583) complete the Top 4.

Enamo Meta's Julie Guerrero (14-for-25 and 0.560), Jovie Omar (16-for-29 and 0.552), and Nami Tadokoro (15-for-30 and 0.500), Sakudi's Lillian Aguon (13-for-26 and 0.500) and Rachel Salalila (11-for-23 and 0.478), and Check It Out's Janet Jones (10-for-22 and 0.455) fill out the Top 10. Statistics were based on at least 22 at bats.

Surprisingly, former leadoff batter Salalila leads the ladies with 12 RBIs, while teammates Aguon (11), Tudela (11), Lebria (10), Camacho (9), and Thelma Mizer (9) try to gain ground.

Camacho stepped on the dish a league-best 16 times with Tudela (14), Salalila (13), Aguon (12), Lebria (12), Tadokoro (12), Sakudi's Tani Masga (12), Enamo's Julie Guerrero (11), NMC Proa's Edwina Baulechong (9), and

Sakudi's Jenny Palacios (9) all listed as notables.

Omar's four triples stand out as Palacios, Camacho, Baulechong, Enamo's Hermina Kelley, and T&C Clan's Zerah Castro have two apiece.

Check It Out's Didi Tudela and Lebria top the field in doubles with three apiece, while Omar and Aguon each have two so far.

Notably, of the Top 10, Lebria, Camacho, and Salalila each have been credited with a homerun.

Babauta has allowed just 11 earned runs in 39 innings for a league-best 1.97 ERA. Omar (2.49), Check It's Eula Matsumoto (4.40), NMC Proas' Felisa Brel (5.04), T&C Clan's Antonette Laniyo (8.01), and NMC Proa's Polly Omechelang (9.15) are also listed as notables.

Laniyo has sat down an impressive 38 batters, well ahead of the Omar (22), Babauta (19), Matsumoto (18), and Brel (17).

Statistics were base on at least 12 innings pitched.

Current team women's team standings has Sakudi (10-1) in front with Enamo Meta (7-3), NMC Proa (4-5), Check It Out (3-7), and T&C Clan (1-9) completing the field.

Action in the Chamolinian softball league continues tonight at the Capital Hill Ball-field with Gorillaz facing off Familia at 6:30pm, followed by a 7:30pm appointment between Phat Boyz and UR Balls. X-clusive then takes on Braddahs in the 8:30pm nightcap.

MCKENZIE

From Page 28

der from Aldan, as the former knocked down 199 pins, while the latter had a measly 131.

Five other youth keglers joined the July roll-off with Nikko Gutierrez carding 580 pinfalls for third place, followed by Leeanne Yarobwemal (543), John Taisacan (524), Ryan Batac (381), Marcel McKenzie (364), and Toby Verdaguer (329).

In the Queen of the Lanes Tournament, the organizing Saipan Bowling Association had a repeat winner in Diane Camacho.

Camacho, who topped the April tournament, notched back-to-back monthly wins after posting 693 pinfalls and besting 12 other female bowlers.

Camacho tallied the best four-game score in the monthly roll-offs on Sunday during the first day of the event. She joined the second day of the roll-offs, but only scored 613 pinfalls.

Mel Regis and Lala Taitano also competed in the second

day of the tournament, but their 653 and 641 pinfalls, were good only for second and third place. In the Queen of the Lanes event, bowlers are allowed to compete in two days, but only the higher score is counted.

In the first day of the roll-offs, Camacho got off to a strong start with her 196 pinfalls in Game 1. She then knocked down 158 and 145 pins in the next two games and then finished the roll-off with 194 pinfalls in Game 4 for an average of 173.25 pinfalls.

In the King of the Lanes, Joe Sto. Domingo also had a winning performance in the first day of the tournament, posting a four-game total of 790 pinfalls.

Domingo prevailed over Raymond Zapanta, who held the second and third best scores in the field with his 733 in Day 1 and 716 in Day 2. Raymond's younger brother, Raphael, collected 695 pinfalls to complete the Top 3.

Domingo had a strong showing in the first two games, earning 225 and 214 pinfalls and then logged 153 and 198 in the last two games for an average of 197.50 pinfalls.

NMA

From Page 28

of these facilities. The whole funding intent to build this facility was to provide for general public and to our athletics, soccer, and American football programs," Tebuteb said.

"There are various benefits to such MOU. This is the only athletics facility in Micronesia (Oceania's North Pacific) that has met the IAAF requirement. NMA continues to provide annual athletics program to our CNMI children. These programs range from road races to the athletic activities in both gender base events ranging from elementary to high schools, moreover from college age individuals to our seniors citizens. Athletics certification benefits and coaching requirement are regularly provided to NMA by our regional development centers (OAA-RDC) and our international (IAAF) body. Keeping this facility in tip-top condition may

also provide benefits for world athletes to avail this facility for any seasonal training," the NMA head added.

Tebuteb said they are still working on rules and regulation for the usage of the facilities and NMA calls on the public's cooperation once these are in place.

"We are in the process of finalizing the rules and regulation and thereafter provide that information to DCCA and NMA-SA for inputs. NMA would like to also ascertain a 30 to 60 days notice to the general public to make recommendations/input prior to any full implementation," Tebuteb said.

"We would also appreciate a rundown of inventory of the facility from DCCA and NAMSA before such implementation. NMA trust that this is a public facility and thus any course of action for improvement or changes would require public input. The safety and well being of the general public, and most especially our athletes, are at the forefront to the MOU's intent," he added.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

Tampa Bay	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	24	17	.585	—
Boston	20	19	.513	3
Toronto	21	20	.512	3
Baltimore	19	21	.475	4 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	25	13	.658	—
Detroit	22	19	.537	4 1/2
Kansas City	20	20	.500	6
Chicago	17	25	.405	10
Minnesota	12	27	.308	13 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	22	19	.537	—
Texas	22	19	.537	—
Oakland	20	20	.500	1 1/2
Seattle	17	23	.425	4 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	25	15	.625	—
Florida	24	16	.600	1
Atlanta	24	19	.558	2 1/2
Washington	20	21	.488	5 1/2
New York	19	22	.463	6 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	24	17	.585	—
St. Louis	23	19	.548	1 1/2

Milwaukee 20 | 21 | .488 | 4 || Pittsburgh | 18 | 23 | .439 | 6 |
| Chicago | 17 | 22 | .436 | 6 |
| Houston | 15 | 26 | .366 | 9 |

West Division

San Francisco	22	18	.550	—
Colorado	21	18	.538	1/2
Los Angeles	19	23	.452	4
San Diego	18	23	.439	4 1/2
Arizona	17	23	.425	5

Yesterday's Games

St. Louis 3, Philadelphia 1
Washington 4, Pittsburgh 2
Cincinnati 7, Chicago Cubs 4
Florida 2, N.Y. Mets 1, 11 innings
Atlanta 3, Houston 2
Colorado 7, San Francisco 4
San Diego 8, Arizona 4
Milwaukee 2, L.A. Dodgers 1
Tampa Bay 6, N.Y. Yankees 5
Toronto 4, Detroit 2
Boston 8, Baltimore 7
Cleveland 19, Kansas City 1
Texas 4, Chicago White Sox 0
L.A. Angels at Oakland
Seattle 5, Minnesota 2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Basketball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Marianas Baptist Academy's Sid Quan grabs the rebound during their playoff game against Agape Christian School in the 2010-2011 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Basketball League last week at the MBA court.



Agape Christian School's Mark Puno pulls up for a jumper against Marianas Baptist Academy's Gordon Coelho.



Agape Christian School's Li Wei Liang goes up for a fall-away jumper against Marianas Baptist Academy's Kanata Omori.



Marianas Baptist Academy's Justin Park tries to keep the ball away from Grace Christian Academy's Angelo Salas during their semis game at the TSL Sports Complex.



Mt. Carmel School's Jae Yong Yoon, left, dribbles out of the defense of Grace Christian Academy.



Grace Christian Academy's Angelo Salas, left, drives against Marianas Baptist Academy's Gordon Coelho.



Grace Christian Academy's Brandon Chargualaf pulls up for a baseline jumper during their title game against Mt. Carmel School.



Grace Christian Academy's Dae Min Jeon challenges the defense of Mt. Carmel School's Anthony Sablan.



Mt. Carmel School's Reynald Cabaltica, left, and Grace Christian Academy's Dae Min Jeon battle for the ball.



Mt. Carmel School's Anthony Sablan, left, blocks the shot of Grace Christian Academy's Anthony Borja.



**Indians
destroy
Royals
19-1**
PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports



**In East finals,
Luol vs LeBron
a key matchup**
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28 WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

NMA takes over Oleai track



Runners compete in the 1,500m race early this month during the PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility, which will now be under the management of Northern Marianas Athletics.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics has forged an agreement with Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs for NMA's takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.

Under the memorandum of understanding DCCA and NMASA signed last month, the government agency and the sports group are giving NMA the sole rights to use, manage, and maintain the track and field facility and also the weight room, two outside toilets, and office space on the west side entrance of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. NMASA president Michael



White, DCCA secretary Melvin Faisao, and NMA president Ramon Tebuteb were the signatories in the MOU.

Despite the takeover, NMA will still make the facility available to the public and other sports organizations.

"NMA considers other programs availing the facilities as a positive contributor and partner to the well being

See NMA on Page 26

ADA TO SAIPAN LITTLE LEAGUE:

'Get your act together'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



C N M I
District
Admin-
istrator
James Ada

has appealed to Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. officials to get their acts together to avoid problems with the Saipan All-Stars' participation in the district competition in Rota later this month.

"If they need to hold the election to select their president, do it as the district meet is just around the corner. If they failed to meet all the requirements for the tournament as they are still struggling



Ada

with the leadership issue and Saipan teams are not on Rota a day before the district competition, I am sorry to say that they will be disqualified. It will be a shame that Saipan players will not be able to compete because of these officials," Ada said in a telephone interview.

Saipan are expected to send its four All-Star teams to Rota and according to Ada, it is Annie Flores who is coordinating with organizers for SLLBI's participation in the district meet that will run from May

28 to 30. Flores was elected president by four SLLBI board members during a meeting on March 31.

An opinion from lawyer Michael White said Flores' election as well as Tony Rogolifo's during the general assembly on April 15 are void as per SLLBI's Constitution. With this opinion, SLLBI vice president Claudia Guerrero stepped in, saying that with the position for SLLBI president still vacant, she acts as president and any trans-

action entered into without her approval will not be honored.

With Leon Guerrero serving as president on an acting capacity and claiming than SLLBI trans-

actions should be coursed through her and with Flores coordinating with district tournament organizers, it is not clear who is running the show for SLLBI.

Leon Guerrero said she is in the process of drafting the agenda for a meeting she will call this month to elect the SLLBI president. She added she will also inquire with the lawmakers on the status of the financial assistance for SLLBI's participation to the district meet.

See GET on Page 26

McKenzie snaps Aldan's streak

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



M.J. Aldan's winning run is over, as Marion McKenzie won the Fiji Water Prince/Princess of the Lanes Tournament for May last Sunday at the Capital Bowling Center.

McKenzie tallied 663 pinfalls in four games to beat the 648 of M.J. Aldan and end the latter's four-month reign in the youth roll-off.

Aldan lost his grip on the Prince title after a lousy performance in the last game of the weekend tournament. He logged 176 and 150 in the first two games and had his best form in Game 3 (191) for a



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

May Prince of the Lanes Marion McKenzie is flanked by runners-up Nikko Gutierrez, left, and M.J. Aldan during the awards ceremony last Sunday at the Capital Bowling Center.

three-game total of 517 pinfalls and a 55-pinfal lead over McKenzie. McKenzie recorded 123, 163, and 178 in the first three

games for 462 pinfalls.

Then in the deciding Game 4, McKenzie stole the thun-

See MCKENZIE on Page 26

Delos Santos, Babauta laying down lumber



Natibu's Jerome Delos Santos, seen here in a file photo, is the current batting leader in the men's division of the Chamolinian softball league with a 0.676 average as of May 9.

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Natibu's Je-
rome Delos
Santos and
Sakudi's Ei-
leen Babauta

are the current batting leaders in the Chamolinian Softball Organization's 2nd Annual Budweiser Slow-Pitch Softball League men's and women's divisions as the first set of statistics were released yesterday.

All statistics were posted as of Monday, May 9. Notably, Babuta has also maintained the lowest earned run average in the women's field.

Delos Santos is the men's current batting leader with 23 hits in 24 at bats for a 0.676 average; followed by Phat Boyz's

See DELOS SANTOS on Page 26